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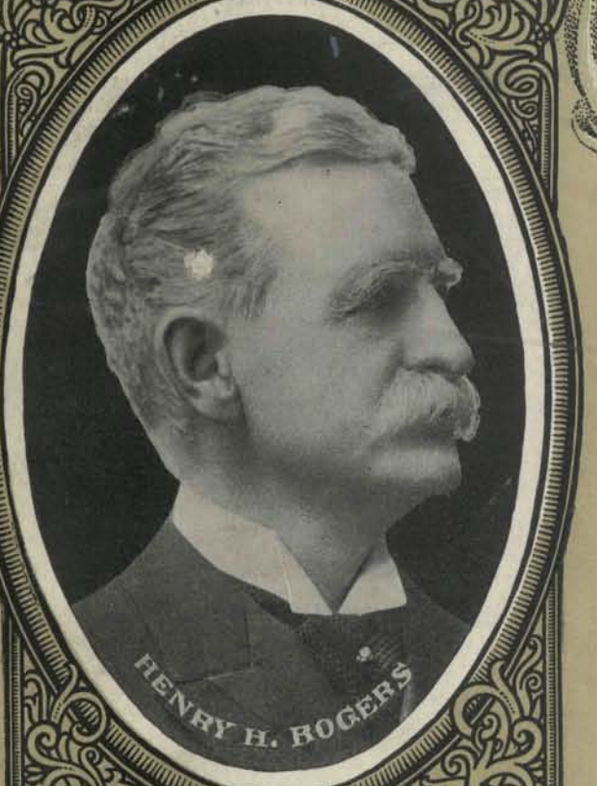
Prof E.M.Shepard
1904



HENRY H. ROGERS

CONTENTS

TOPICS OF THE DAY:

Lawson and the Law 893
Federal Control of Trusts and Revolutionary Reform 894
Sea-Level or Lock Canal at Panama? 896
To Divert Immigration Southward 897
Government Control of Insurance 898
Topics in Brief 899

LETTERS AND ART:

A German Professor's Interpretation of Our Art and Letters 900
A Japanese View of Lafcadio Hearn 901
Gorky's New Play—An Attack on the "Classes" 901
The New American Music 902
Difficulties of Modern Dramatists 903
Boston's Disputed Velasquez 903
Stevenson's Continuing Popularity 904

SCIENCE AND INVENTION:

An Odd War-Vessel 905
The Comparative Food Value of Potatoes and Chestnuts 905
Identification by Measurement 906
Oil-Bombardment to Calm Waves 907
The Bodily Temperature of Plants 908
Science Brevities 908

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD:

Lyman Abbott's New "Heresies" 909
Tissot's Old-Testament Paintings 910
The Christian Answer to Pessimism 911
The American Bible League 912

FOREIGN COMMENT:

Kuropatkin's Army and Oyama's Army Underground 913
British Aid to Russia 914
The Policeman of the Western Hemisphere . 914
The Philippine Bulwark Against Japan . . . 915
The Practise of Traducing Germany 915
A Vigorous American Policy in Santo Domingo 916
Reconciliation of Vatican and Quirinal . . . 916
Points of View 916

MISCELLANEOUS 918-922

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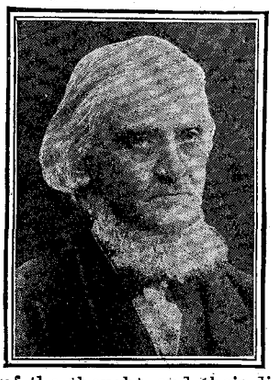

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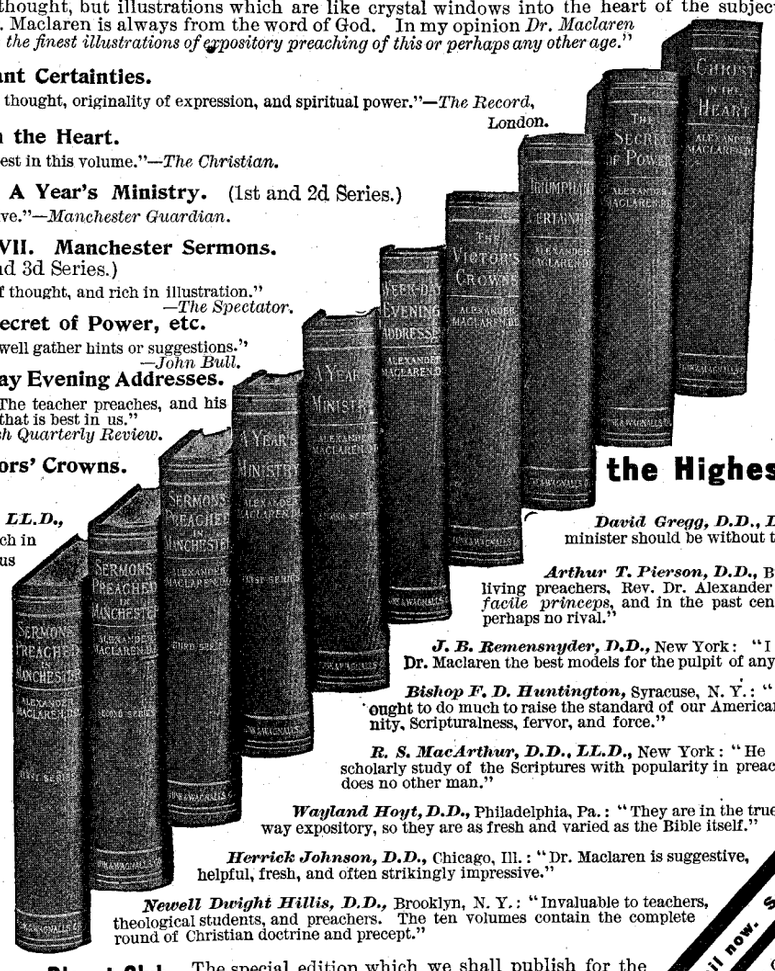

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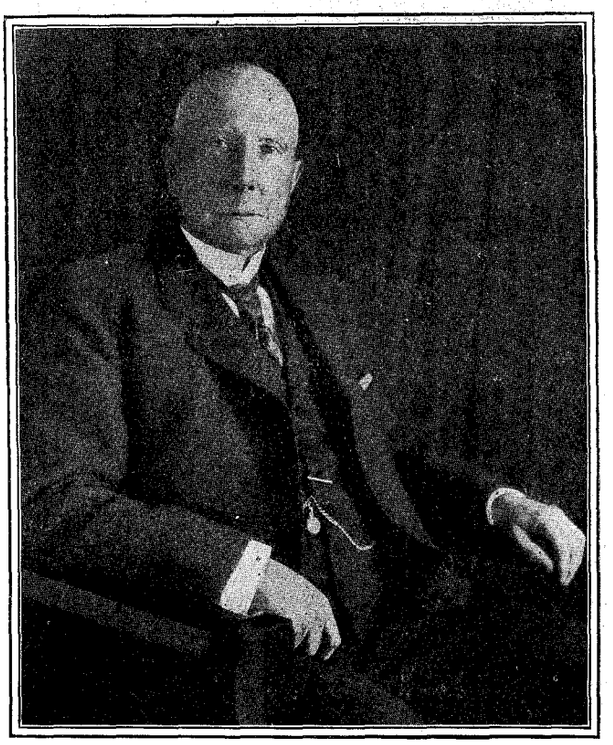
TOPICS OF THE DAY.

LAWSON AND THE LAW.

WHILE Mr. Lawson's charges against Henry H. Rogers and other financiers are still viewed with suspicion by the daily press, some are beginning to ask why the men who are being drubbed so unmercifully by the Boston broker do not "put the law on him." Mr. Rogers's lawyers, it is true, warned the American News Company that Lawson's article in the January *Everybody's* contains "grossly libelous statements concerning Mr. Rogers, amounting, as we are advised, to criminal libel," and notified the company that it would "be held liable for the circulation of the magazine containing the offending article." The company, however, instead of refusing to handle the magazine, made the threat public, whereat there was such a rush to buy it that the publishers and distributors could hardly supply the demand. No libel suit has been brought thus far and rumor has it that none will be. This prompts a number of journals to ask why.

"It is not possible to conceive that after the publication that is now before the world," declares the New York *Press*, "*somebody* must not go into court. In court there must be established proof of allegations which in truth astound the world, or proof of slander and lies. It must be shown whether the charges are Lawson libel or Lawson dynamite." If the Lawson charges "are allowed to pass without prosecution, a powerful presumption of truth is raised in the public mind," observes the Springfield *Republican*, and the New York *Times* argues that "if the public concludes that for reasons of his own Mr. Rogers does not care to sue Mr. Lawson for libel, it will put upon the action he has taken a not unnatural construction, and he will have himself to blame for it." "There is a deep-seated impression," remarks the Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, "that the capitalists are afraid to bring him to book, for in doing so they would be compelled to bring themselves to book." The Atlanta *News*, the New Orleans *Times-Democrat*, and a number of other papers have considerable faith in Mr. Lawson's averments; and the New York *Evening Post* warns the "complacent capitalists" that altho they may treat Lawson cynically or flippantly, "he still remains an obstinate fact to be reckoned with," and he is making a tremendous impression upon the people at large. *The Post* adds: "So long as financiers of repute lend their names and



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influence to speculations that may properly be characterized as 'frenzied,' just so long will 'Down with the grafters of Wall Street!' be a potent battle-cry, just so long will the utterances of a Lawson be flame to the flax." The New York *World* warns the victims of the Lawson prod that "they will never convince the public that there could be so much smoke without a little fire," and it goes on to say:

"Lawson's statements have been accepted not because Lawson made them, but because they dovetailed with things the public already knew. 'Frenzied finance' was not altogether a mystery when Lawson began his revelations. A little light had been turned upon Amalgamated and a great deal of light upon the Ship-Building swindle. Even Bay State Gas was not completely hidden in darkness, and the public was more or less familiar with the thing that Lawson calls 'the system' long before the Boston speculator became a popular contributor to a ten-cent magazine.

"Most of the exposing has been done not by Lawson, but by the men who are trying to head him off. There has been little definite information in his magazine articles, but a great many hints, and it is the hints that are producing the consternation. It would

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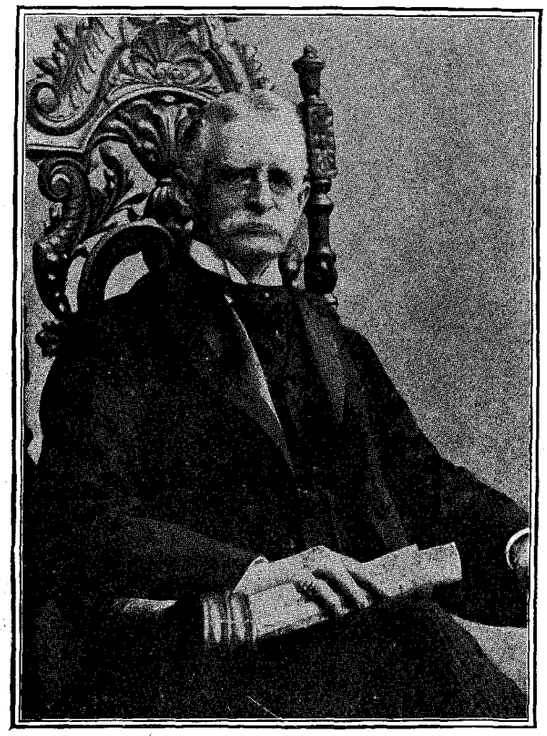
seem that the cause of all this celestial ire among the potentates of 'high finance' is not so much what Lawson has already said as the knowledge of what he might say if he wished. No wonder 'the system' is excited!"

The most important feature of the latest instalment of Mr. Lawson's story is his charge that Mr. Rogers told that a fund of



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HENRY H. ROGERS.

$5,000,000 was raised under his (Rogers's) direction in 1896 to swing five doubtful States into line for McKinley. Lawson and Rogers, according to the story, were trying to devise a way in which the latter could put several hundred thousand dollars into a Bay State Gas deal without danger of detection. Says Mr. Lawson:

"I put forward a dozen ways to meet the emergency, but he would have none of them. Finally he suggested a method which was certainly perfect of its kind. He began by letting me into the secret that the chances of a McKinley victory in the election the following week looked pretty bad, and that the latest canvass of the States showed that unless something radical were done, Bryan would surely win. Hanna had called into consultation half a dozen of the biggest financiers in Wall Street, and it was decided to turn at least five of the doubtful States. To do this a fund of $5,000,000 had been raised under Rogers's direction, to be turned over to Mark Hanna and McKinley's cousin, Osborne, through John Moore, the Wall Street broker, who was acting as Rogers's representative in collecting the money. It would be legitimate for the National Committee to pay out money to carry Delaware, and he, Rogers, would arrange it that the coin to satisfy Braman and Foster should come through this channel. Thus he would be completely protected.

"'Lawson,' said Mr. Rogers, looking at me with intense and deadly earnestness, his voice charged with conviction, 'if Bryan's elected there will be such a panic in this country as the world has never seen, and with his money ideas and the crazy-headed radicals he will call to Washington to administer the nation's affairs business will surely be destroyed and the working people suffer untold misery. You know we all hate to do what Uncle Mark says is necessary, but it's a case of some of us sacrificing something for the country's good. Bryan's election would set our country back a century, and I believe it's the sacred duty of every honest American to do what he can to save his land from such a calamity.'"

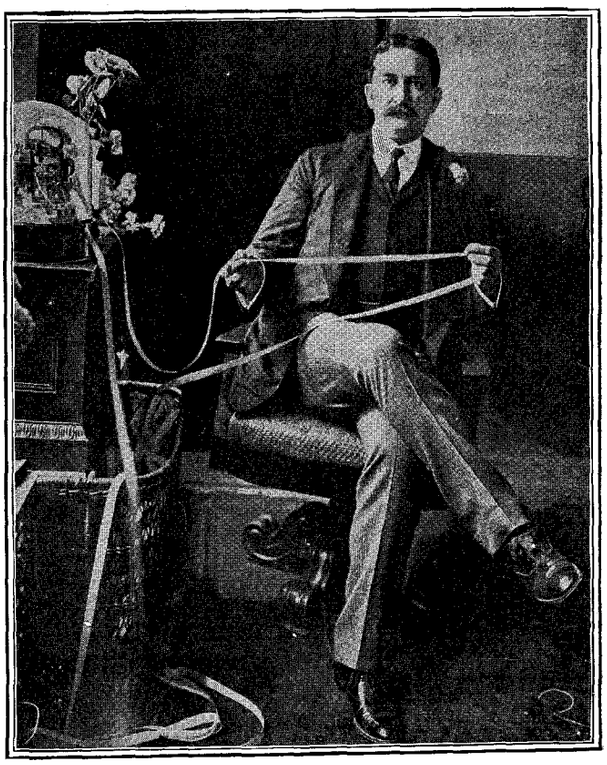
Cornelius N. Bliss, who was treasurer of the Republican National Committee in 1896, says that the story of the $5,000,000 fund is "absolutely false," and the New York *Globe* (Rep.) argues as follows:

"The late Mr. Hanna had some reputation as a politician, and in 1896 he was reasonably familiar with political conditions. If in the week preceding the election of 1896 he did not know McKinley was certain of election he was strangely ignorant. In August, 1896, there may have been doubt as to the result, but not in October. Mr. Bryan's own speeches showed that he recognized his approaching defeat. The story that $5,000,000 was deemed necessary just before the election is preposterous. Early in the campaign, to stimulate contributions, Mr. Hanna may have 'scared' the Street by gloomy predictions, but he would have made himself ridiculous if he had attempted it later. The election of Roosevelt was not more certain this year than was the election of McKinley in October, 1896."

FEDERAL CONTROL OF TRUSTS AND REVOLUTIONARY REFORM.

IN the proposal made by Commissioner of Corporations Garfield, that all the trusts be brought directly under federal control and regulated by a federal franchise or license system, it is generally believed that the Government has a remedy for trust evils that exceeds by far, in efficiency, the Sherman act, or any law that a State could enact. "He [Garfield] breaks in on profitless antitrust babbling and the idle clamor for trust suppression with a definite remedial recommendation," remarks the New York *Globe* (Rep.). The Sherman act, a few papers say, has outgrown its usefulness, and they receive the commissioner's recommendation with delight. But many of the journals, and noticeably a few of those which have been calling most strenuously for trust regulation, regard the plan with alarm, declaring it to be too drastic and revolutionary.

Mr. Garfield, in his report, places his scheme for federal trust control before Congress. He speaks of the present system of control of corporations as "thoroughly vicious." "Under present conditions," he says, "secrecy and dishonesty in promotion, overcapitalization, unfair discrimination by means of transportation and other rebates" are some of the principal evils. "The immediate work is, hence, not to prove the existence of such evils and



From a photograph specially taken for the Boston "American."
THOMAS W. LAWSON.

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difficulties, but to find possible remedies for them." The Government should secure means for fair business competition, freedom from unjust discrimination, etc., and "then should fully protect the person or corporation obeying the law and promptly punish the violator of the law." Mr. Garfield regards additional state action or delegation by the federal Government to States of the control of interstate commerce as impracticable, and suggests a federal franchise or license system for all corporations engaged in interstate commerce. His ideas are embodied in the following paragraphs taken from his report:

"Legally this is practicable; it avoids the legal difficulties of national incorporation as well as the practical one of centralization of power, and gives the national Government direct regulation of the agencies of interstate and foreign commerce.

"I therefore beg to suggest that Congress be requested to consider the advisability of enacting a law for the legislative regulation of interstate and foreign commerce under a license or franchise, which in general should provide as follows:

"(*a*) The granting of a federal franchise or license to engage in interstate commerce.

"(*b*) The imposition of all necessary requirements as to corporate organization and management as a condition precedent to the grant of such franchise or license.

"(*c*) The requirement of such reports and returns as may be desired as a condition of the retention of such franchise or license.

"(*d*) The prohibition of all corporations and corporate agencies from engaging in interstate and foreign commerce without such federal franchise or license.

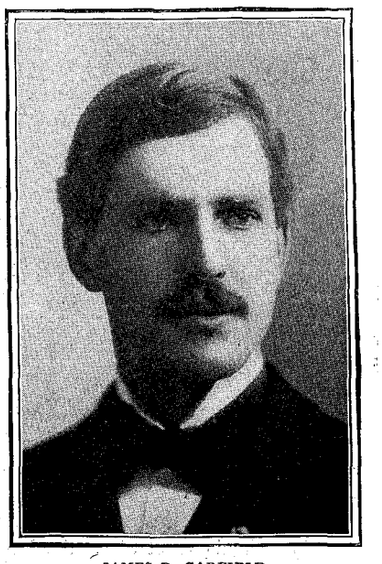
"(*e*) The full protection of the grantees of such franchise or license who obey the laws applicable thereto.

"(*f*) The right to refuse or withdraw such franchise or license in case of violation of law, with appropriate right of judicial appeal to prevent abuse of power by the administrative officer."

The scheme is "vast" and too "far-reaching," declares the Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.); and it remarks further that "before the country shall assent to this it will be well to consider whether he has not exaggerated the present ills, and whether a sufficient remedy, more in accord with our political system, may not be found in giving States ampler authority to regulate the business done within their limits." The New York *Sun* (Rep.) thinks that the scheme will be adopted when "Congress has consented to burn the Constitution"; and the Louisville *Courier-Journal* states that "at present both the States and the federal Government have a chance at the trusts, but under the new arrangement state control would be ousted. And that would probably be very agreeable to the trusts, as they have long had their own way with the federal Government, still dominate it, and hope to continue to do so for an indefinite time in the future." The New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.) thinks the scheme will practically abolish the States. To quote:

"This is, of course, to strip the States of the power to create corporations, and to usurp for the federal Government the sole authority to confer the right to do corporate business. The power to grant charters is one of the highest attributes of sovereignty. The thirteen original States, inheriting from the crown all governmental rights, possessed this among others, and it is in like manner and degree possessed by the States subsequently admitted to the Union. Among the limited and defined powers conferred upon the federal Government by the States in making the Constitution the right to create corporations is not found. It has been assumed to exist as among the powers indispensable to a sovereign nation. But its exercise has been narrowly confined to the broadest federal purposes, insomuch that the passage by Congress of a general corporation law, authorizing the promiscuous setting up of federal corporations for general business purposes, would at once raise the gravest questions of constitutionality. Yet this is precisely what Mr. Garfield proposes to do by indirection. The power to say that a given commodity shall not pass from one State into another until the corporation manufacturing or transporting it has complied with regulations laid down at Washington would at once and effectively transfer from the States to the federal Government the body and substance of the charter-giving power. When the States can no longer authorize incorporators to organize and begin business, they have parted with a power hitherto reckoned among their highest inalienable possessions."

But why bring up new laws when there are plenty on the statutes which will eliminate present evils, if they are only tried? is the question propounded in some quarters. "In all this discussion of remedial legislation," says the Pittsburg *Dispatch* (Rep.), "the remedial laws already on the statute books are in danger of being overlooked. Why not use the tools at hand instead of spending all the energy in clamoring for others?" The New York *World* (Dem.) says similarly:



JAMES R. GARFIELD,
Commissioner of Corporations, who would license trusts.

"The legislation now on the statute books has never been enforced, and until it is enforced it is pretty difficult to say what new legislation is necessary for the promotion of the general welfare. Mr. Roosevelt at one time thought that an amendment to the Constitution was needed in order to enable the Government to deal with unreasonable combinations in restraint of trade. When he finally enforced the Sherman law he found that he had power to suppress every combination in restraint of trade, whether it was reasonable or unreasonable. If he were to enforce all the corporation laws now on the statute books he might find that Mr. Garfield's plan to license corporations is largely superfluous. . . . Before conferring upon the President of the United States a power which even in a monarchy like Great Britain can be exercised only by an omnipotent Parliament that knows no checks and balances, it will be wise to stop and think. The best of all legislation is evolutionary rather than revolutionary."

The New York *American* declares that it has advocated Mr. Garfield's recommendation for years, and the New York *Herald* believes that the suggestions ought to make a favorable impression upon Congress. *The Wall Street Journal*, which has supported Mr. Roosevelt in his stand on the trust question, remarks that it would be "wise to adopt the recommendation of Mr. Garfield." The same paper says in another editorial:

"The handwriting is on the wall in plain sight of everybody. It matters little whether the President's recommendation in regard to federal regulation of railroad rates or Commissioner Garfield's recommendation of federal licenses for interstate corporations are enacted at this session or not, or whether they present the best solution possible for the corporation problem. This thing is certain, that they are a disclosure of the inevitable to the corporation world.

"Surely, and not slowly, is this country progressing more and more toward centralization of power in the federal Government, and surely, and not slowly, is public opinion favoring this centralization as the only practicable method for the control of the corporations. Those who are at the head of the great corporations may use all of their power of money and influence, may call into exercise the ingenuity of the ablest lawyers of the country, and may even resort to political corruption, to prevent this result, but at most they can only delay the consummation of the desire of the people. Their better, their more politic course would be to accept the inevitable in a philosophic and patriotic spirit, and endeavor to adjust their business to the new conditions thus created. Such a policy would be better for them and better for the country. It would avoid the pains and penalties of a long struggle. It would

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avoid also the bitterness which such a struggle would engender, and it would be apt to save the corporations from measures which would be unjust, because inspired by a spirit of revenge."

SEA-LEVEL OR LOCK CANAL AT PANAMA?

IT is more than a year since President Roosevelt delivered his oft-quoted remark about "making the dirt fly on the isthmus," and yet, owing to facts that have come to light since that time, not even the general plan for the canal can now be said to be decided upon. A difference of opinion seems to exist between Admiral Walker, president of the Isthmian Canal Commission, and John F. Wallace, the chief engineer, with regard to the plan. Mr. Wallace, a few days ago, was reported to have said that it would be better to build the canal on the sea-level; but Admiral Walker, according to report, believes that a sea-level canal is out of the question, not only because it would cost $100,000,000 more than the contemplated 90-foot canal, but also for the reason that its construction would take twice as long. Mr. Wallace, in a report to the committee of the House of Representatives, states that the chief obstacle to the construction of a lock canal is the building of a dam at Bohio, where it is apparently impossible to find a suitable foundation. A sea-level canal, he says, would be less expensive to maintain and to operate, would save time in passage through it, and could be widened and deepened when necessary without interfering with traffic. He bases his figures on the estimate of the former canal commission of $200,000,000 for a 90-foot level canal, that is a canal 90 feet above the level of the sea. The work on this plan would require from seven to ten years. On this basis a 60-foot level canal would cost $225,000,000, and could be open for traffic in ten years; a 30-foot level canal would cost $250,000,000, and be open for traffic in twelve years; a sea-level canal would cost $300,000,000, and could be open for traffic in fifteen years and completed in twenty years. But no plan of construction will be decided upon until the commission's investigations have been completed.

A good many of the dailies, while admitting that $300,000,000 is an enormous sum, have come out strongly for the sea-level canal. "It would seem to be a better policy to spend $300,000,000 for a permanent way, which has the support of the best expert opinion, than to construct a makeshift, which may have to be built over again within a few years, just because there will be an apparent saving of $100,000,000," declares the Philadelphia *Ledger*; and the New Orleans *Times-Democrat* says: "We want a sea-level canal, and we want it opened in much less than fifteen years. There is no insuperable obstacle in the way of getting what we want if we are willing to pay for it, and the taxpayers have left little doubt on the official mind that they are willing to foot the bills." The New York *Tribune* thinks the sea-level canal will be cheaper in the long run. It remarks:

"The question of cost is, of course, to be considered. But we must bear in mind that it does not involve merely the first cost of construction. Commercially speaking—and this is a commercial enterprise—the problem of cost involves four factors. These are the initial cost of construction, the cost of maintenance, the cost of operation, and the cost or value of ships' time in passing through the canal. That canal will be the cheapest in which not any one of these items, but the sum total of them all, is least. Now, the high-level canal would be cheapest in respect to the first of these items and the sea-level would be dearest. But in respect to every one of the others the sea-level canal would be cheapest. There is reason, therefore, for thinking that in the end it would be most economical to adopt at once the sea-level plan. Nor is it probable

The names of the people in the group are, reading from left to right, Sadaduchi Uchida, Japanese Consul General at New York; Mr. Taylor; Sato, grand master of the Prince's household; Dr. Rakkaku; Prince Fushimi; Watanabe, master of ceremonies; Count Terashima; Mr. Tokioka; Major Mihara; Mr. Sogi.

PRINCE FUSHIMI AND HIS SUITE.

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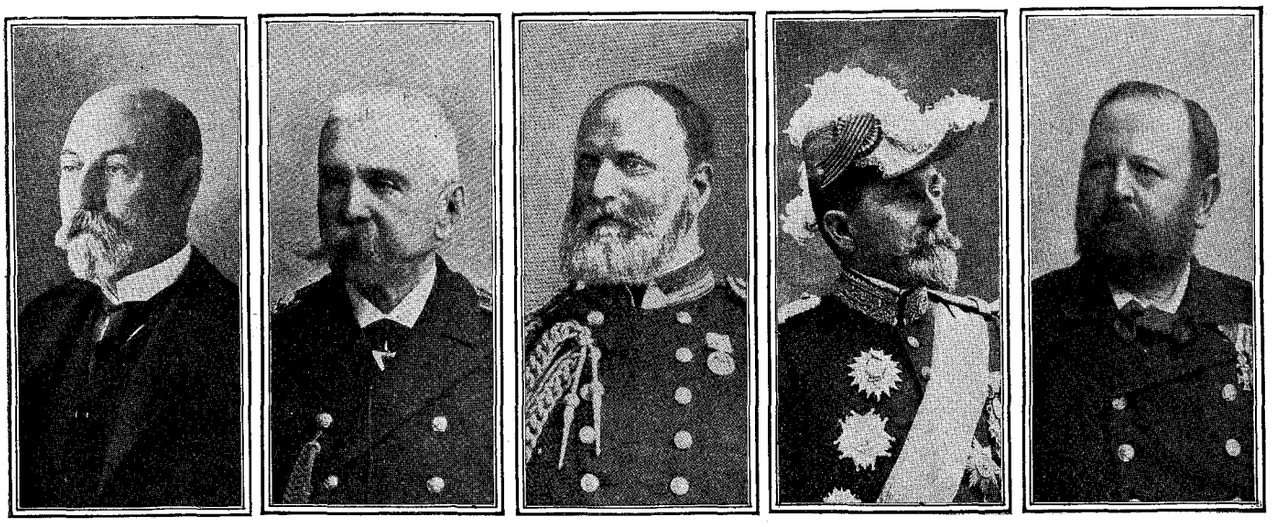

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ADMIRAL CHARLES H. DAVIS. Representing the United States.

ADMIRAL KAZNAKOFF. The Russian arbitrator.

ADMIRAL SIR LEWIS BEAUMONT. Representing Great Britain.

ADMIRAL FOURNIER. French representative.

ADMIRAL VON SPAUN. Austrian member of the commission.

THE NORTH SEA COMMISSION.

that that plan would prove as costly for construction as has been supposed. Upon the basis of the former commission's surveys and estimates, which are now known to have been inaccurate, a high-level canal would cost $200,000,000 and a sea-level canal $300,000,000. Now, the crux of the construction work is the excavation at Culebra. The former commission estimated its cost at 80 cents a cubic yard. Mr. Wallace is now doing it for a maximum of 54 cents, and is doing some of it at much less than that. There are 100,000,000 cubic yards to be excavated for a sea-level canal, so that the reduction of cost from 80 to 54 cents would mean a reduction of total cost to the extent of $26,000,000, or from $300,000,000 to $274,000,000. There is ground for belief that a considerable further reduction of cost can be effected, and also a comparable reduction of the time required for the work. When all these facts are taken into consideration it seems probable that the sea-level plan, to which we believe Mr. Wallace inclines and which Secretary Taft strongly favors, will be adopted."

On the other hand, the Baltimore *American* believes that "if a waterway can be built, which at a cost of $200,000,000, will serve the needs of the world's commerce for a generation after it is finished—and there is nothing but speculation or surmise to show that the world will outgrow it—it may be economical to appropriate the extra $100,000,000 to other purposes. In other words, there are some other things besides the Panama Canal which have demands on the Government's fostering care." The Boston *Transcript* calls this sea-level talk a bubble, and it remarks:

"The reason why we were ultimately able to secure the Panama route, which is unquestionably the better one, was primarily the lesser cost, counting both acquisition and construction. In fact, that was the deciding factor. The expert estimates made a saving as against the rival route of over $45,000,000, which was something worth while. Now comes Mr. Wallace with a proposition that we add about $200,000,000 to the original figures and that we follow a new line of construction that will double the time for completion or extend it from ten years to twenty years. This would triple the cost and double the delay, certainly a formidable proposition that he must be very wise or very ingenious to make good in the face of our financial deficit and growing financial burdens, and also in the face of the world demand that this new and stimulating artery of commerce be opened for service at the earliest possible moment. . . . . .

"We do not know how far the sea-level germ which Mr. Wallace has liberated has affected the commission generally. It is understood that President Walker stands sturdily by the lock system. We hardly see how he could do less without treachery to the American people, who, in some cases, reluctantly indorsed the recommendations of his original report. If the Panama Canal will not do the work that it may be required to do, according to the lock plan, then we should have learned that fact long ago. If it will do it, then why waste years and sink money by the hundred million, to secure something more in harmony with the technical taste of a fastidious engineer? The old Czar might have approved this plan, as he did a railroad in an air line from St. Petersburg to Moscow, but the American people contemplate their great enterprises with a more flexible habit of mind."

TO DIVERT IMMIGRATION SOUTHWARD.

ONE of the evils of the enormous stream of immigrants to this country has been the congestion of these aliens in the slums of large cities, and the idea of scattering them over the country, particularly southward, has often been suggested by editorial and other writers and by officials. It is only now that any apparent advance in that direction has been made. Immigration Commissioner Sargent, in conference with the representatives of the Southern, Eastern, and Western railroads, recently discussed a means of inducing immigrants to go South. The commissioner proposes, if Congress will give him the power, to establish at Ellis Island a bureau where arriving immigrants may obtain information regarding the possibilities of employment in all parts of the country. He plans to furnish information not only concerning all sorts of employment which immigrants are likely to want, but also concerning the cost of land, and the agricultural possibilities of the various sections of the Union. The adoption of this plan, Mr. Sargent believes, will lessen the growing evils of the alien colonies of New York and other large cities, and at the same time benefit the South. The railroad representatives are said to heartily favor the idea.

"The benefit of such an arrangement to the immigrant," says the Chicago *Post*, "would be incalculable. The proposition is one that merits the fullest encouragement." Most of the Southern papers are just as hearty in their commendation of the scheme, but they let it be known that the Government must not let loose a horde of undesirable aliens on their section. It "will enable the South to solve the problem of securing white labor for the farm," says the Jacksonville *Times-Union*, "labor that is capable of steady, continuous work and not liable to be drawn off by the attractions of a lazy, hand-to-mouth existence in the cities." "We want only the best, the most industrious, and the most intelligent" immigrants, declares the Chattanooga *Times*; "this would prove a positive blessing and add to the expansion and prosperity of our

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rapidly growing section." The New Orleans *Times-Democrat* says that Louisiana wants immigrants who, like the Hungarians, "are essentially agriculturists and come here with the intention of earning their livelihood in that pursuit"; and the Charlotte *Observer* thinks that Scandinavians are particularly desirable for Southern settlers. If, it adds, "this tide could once be set southward, our labor troubles would be at an end. Meanwhile until Providence comes to the rescue, we must, by firm but fair and timely dealing, make the most of, and make out the best with, the black man." The Southern States should encourage the right kind of immigration, says the Atlanta *Constitution*, and it goes on to say:

"The Italians have demonstrated in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana their capability as farm laborers and tenants. Already there are thousands of Italians on the farm lands of these States, and they are doing wonders in comparison with what the average negro farm hand or tenant accomplishes. There is in some sections strong prejudice against Italians, but it may be stated in their behalf that they thoroughly understand the intensive methods of culture, are not afraid of work, are easy to get along with, and have in them the making of good American citizens. It is said they take very readily to cotton cultivation and are able to increase production on a given acreage one-third."

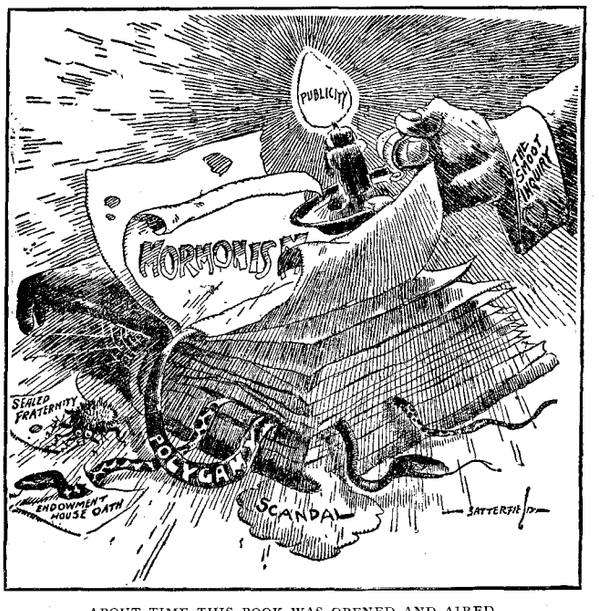
Robert de C. Ward, writing in *The Popular Science Monthly*, declares that this distribution of aliens among our farming population will have bad results. He says, in part:

"To scatter among our rural communities large numbers of aliens whose standards of living are such that they are willing to work for the lowest possible wage, is to expose our native farming population to a competition which is distinctly undesirable. In the corn belt of the West, as Prof. T. N. Carver has recently shown, the newer immigrants, because of their lower standards of living, have been able to put more money into land, buildings, and equipment than the native American farmer; and hence have an advantage in the struggle for existence. Scattering our alien population of the more ignorant races simply spreads more widely the evils which result from exposing our own people to competition with the lower classes of foreigners. Again, in the case of the agricultural distribution of Italian and other alien laborers through the South, while it is perfectly true that these aliens will supplant the negroes in many—probably in most—occupations, the effect will undoubtedly be to cause a migration of the negroes to the cities—a result which those familiar with the conditions of negroes now congested in cities can not fail to view with the greatest alarm. Lastly, the more widely we scatter the newer immigrants, the more widespread will be the effect of the competition with the lower grades of aliens in causing a decrease in the birth-rate among the older portion of our population. American fathers and mothers, as the late Gen. Francis A. Walker first pointed out and as leading authorities have since reiterated, naturally shrink from exposing their sons and daughters to competition with those who are contented with lower wages and lower standards of living; *and therefore these sons and daughters are never born.* The agricultural distribution of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe, and from Asia, will hasten still more the replacement of the native by foreign stock."

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF INSURANCE.

IN the movement that seems to be on foot for the regulation of all interstate business by the Government in Washington, the movement for federal supervision of insurance is unique in the fact that it is the insurance companies themselves which are clamoring for the supervision. Senator Dryden, president of the Prudential Insurance Company, is sending around to the papers copies of a speech he delivered in Boston recently, in which he makes the strongest kind of a plea for federal regulation, and recalls the fact that the companies have been anxious for it for forty years. The people would "never regret" the step, he declares, and it is his "firm conviction" that it would produce "most excellent results." A further examination of his address reveals the reason for this unusual willingness to be supervised. At present the companies are in the "intolerable situation" of being subject to "oversupervision by some fifty different insurance departments" of the various States, and "the present annual amount paid in taxes, licenses, fees, etc., is about $9,000,000. The Wisconsin Insurance Department collected over $500,000 from insurance companies in 1903, North Carolina collected over $200,000, and other States collected large amounts, far in excess of the few thousand dollars required to run their insurance departments. In contrast with these large figures, "the total cost of examinations in connection with the government supervision of over five thousand national banks during 1903 was only $325,000, or an average of about $64 for each bank." So the insurance companies look to federal regulation as an escape from a worse evil. The Supreme Court decided in 1869, in the case of Paul *vs.* Virginia, that insurance is not interstate commerce, but Senator Dryden thinks that that decision

STILL PULLING THEM.
—Donahey in the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*.



ABOUT TIME THIS BOOK WAS OPENED AND AIRED.
—Satterfield in the Detroit *Tribune*.

THE SMOOT INQUIRY IN CARTOON.

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does not apply to present conditions. Mr. Paul, in a letter to the New York *Times*, avers that it does apply. Well, says the Philadelphia *Press*, "the way to settle it—and the only satisfactory way—is for Congress to act," and that will bring it before the court; and Representative Morrell, of Pennsylvania, has introduced into Congress a bill providing for the proposed supervision.

Insurance Topics (Boston) suggests, however, that government supervision may be a step toward government operation and monopoly of insurance; and *Insurance* (New York) thinks that the companies may find themselves simply saddled with one more supervisor, without being rid of the rest. Says the latter journal:

"The end sought is to replace fifty inquisitors by a single one—to avoid duplication. Now the weakness of the case, it seems to us, is that our friends have failed to show that the new supervision will not work out as fifty plus one. How will they—how can they—make the States let go? Nobody will be bold enough to deny that each State may still control and worry its own corporations; how can federal authority prevent its worrying those of other States? If the Washington bureau should condemn the rock as dangerously unstable, and some later wise man in office should still welcome it to Wisconsin, whether Washington could keep it out is one question, which you may call unpractical, if you choose; but if Washington gives the rock a certificate all solid with gold, how can it make that document go in Wisconsin or Massachusetts? Can any reserved (or unreserved) power be found, in or out of the Constitution, which can compel the States to give up their confirmed habit? If reasoning and persuasion are to do this, we must remember that they have altogether failed to make state supervision decent and tolerable, of which failure the movement for a central authority is evidence."

The Brooklyn *Standard Union* has little idea that the companies can free themselves from the state inspection "blackmail," of which it gives a graphic picture in the following editorial:

"Very few United States Senators or Representatives would dare vote for a law abolishing these local insurance departments. They figure too largely among the important assets of the machine state bosses. Nor is there any appreciable difference in this respect between the state bosses of either party. All of them are greedy for the legitimate patronage these insurance departments furnish, and more than a few, it is to be feared, hanker unrighteously after the money to be made surreptitiously out of the companies. . . . .

"The tribute of the official highwaymen is so frequent and so various, for they can operate on every company doing business in their respective States, big insurance men say it would be better—better, however, only in the sense of cheaper—to leave the patronage of the local departments to the state bosses, provided the duties were so changed that the license to do business in any State should be obtainable from and revocable by the federal Government alone. That would stop the enormous blackmail to which many of the companies are now subjected by state examiners of a certain class, and put a stop also to the bogus get-rich-quick companies, which, by 'seeing' the aforesaid examiners, may cut rates, give rebates, and do many other things financially sound companies, able and willing to meet their obligations, could not do.

"This is a matter which affects nearly all the people, for in these days insurance, either of fire or life, is almost universal. Under the present law the head of any insurance department of any State in the Union can come or send an examiner to New York and practically take entire charge of the books of any company doing business in his State. The New York company may be as sound as it is possible for a financial institution to be, but it can not do business in the State from which the examiner comes without his indorsement. Suppose it is doing a million dollars' worth of business in that State, and has a big plant in offices, etc. Of course, it can fight an examiner in the courts, and subject itself to every sort of loss and trouble, but there is no certainty of winning in the end, because after all it is practically in the discretion of the head of a state department of insurance whether a company shall do business in his State, so the outcome in any event is a heavy loss. There is, in addition, the suspicion as to the company's solvency almost inherent in such a contest, for the claim of the examiner will be that it is not fit to do business in his State with safety to the people.

"The graft gathered by some of these examiners is almost incredible. As much as a quarter of a million dollars in blackmail has been paid by perfectly solvent companies to state 'examiners' in a single year. Get close to any insurance man and he will admit the facts. There are said to be one or two companies in New York so big they can not be blackmailed. One of them handles more money than the Bank of England, and has a wide extending influence, which even state political bosses fear. Attempts have been futilely made to blackmail these companies, which shows the daring of the blackmailers, and at the same time indicates how wide in other directions may be the field of their operations. Every dollar of blackmail levied lessens by so much the security of the man who is insured in the company blackmailed.

"What a commentary it is on our institutions that there should be grave doubt of the passage of a law so favorable to the overwhelming masses of the people, because it interferes with the interests of a comparatively few patronage hunters and official highwaymen! Of course, all the state insurance departments are not dishonest, but the honest ones are dreadfully handicapped by the dishonest ones, not only in permitting financially sound and correctly managed companies to do business in a way beneficial to the people, but in preventing the bunco insurance men from preying on the masses."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IF the South could only get a little reduction in misrepresentation it would not object.—*The Newport News Times-Herald.*

THE total vote cast in the Presidential election will not be known until they quit voting in Colorado.—*The Washington Post.*

Unfortunately for his enemies, Mr. Lawson's statements can't be proved false without disclosing the facts.—*The Detroit News-Tribune.*

MINT Director Roberts says that 1904 has broken the coinage record. Well, Mrs. Chadwick had to have the money.—*The Olean Times.*

IT would seem that Mrs. Chadwick's face was her fortune. "Face" is not used in exactly the dictionary sense.—*The Atlanta Constitution.*

IT seems not altogether impossible that Mrs. Chadwick might have succeeded in borrowing money from Madame Humbert.—*The Providence Journal.*

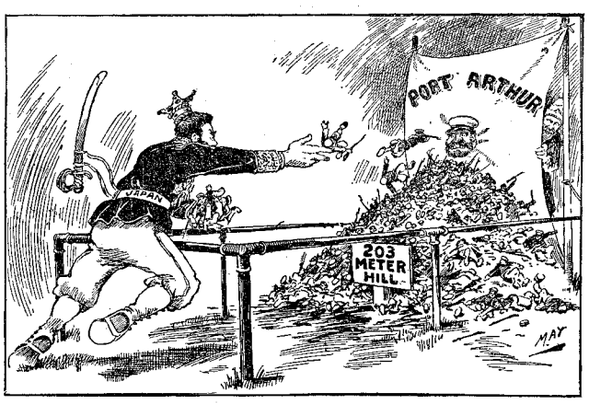
THE Japanese have reached high tide, and their luck is about to turn. The information comes straight from authentic Russian sources.—*The Chicago Tribune.*

IF Mrs. Chadwick had got in the game a little earlier she might have had a fine job with the financial end of a national campaign committee.—*The Houston Chronicle.*

THE accomplices of the notorious Mayor Ames, of Minneapolis, go free because they testified against him. Ames goes free because nobody believed their testimony. Thus we see how all things work together for the general good.—*The New York American.*

A BILL is pending in the New York City council which provides for keeping suspicious characters away from that city. Home industries should be protected.—*The Washington Post.*

MILDER GAME.—There is no need to worry too much over the insurrections which the college students of Russia are starting up. From what we can learn of Russian colleges, the students simply start insurrections instead of playing football.—*The Atlanta Journal.*



THE SPORT OF KINGS.
—May in the Detroit *Journal.*

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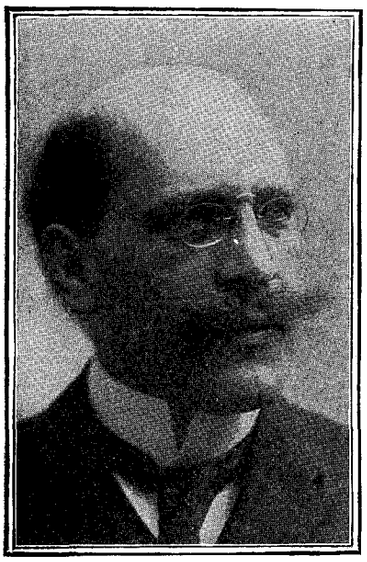
LETTERS AND ART.

A GERMAN PROFESSOR'S INTERPRETATION OF OUR ART AND LETTERS.

PROF. HUGO MÜNSTERBERG'S work on "The Americans" has just made its appearance in an English translation and presents the philosophizings of an amiable observer on a great variety of social, political, and artistic phenomena. His temper is shown in his statement that a recognition of "the deeper impulses of American life" makes necessary "a certain ignoring of the shortcomings of the hour"; and he further defines his point of view in these words: "If we aim to work out and make clear the essentials of the American mission in the world, we can not take the attitude of the reformer, whose attention belongs, first of all, to the blunders and frailties of the hour." To his mind a study in Americanism means "a study of Americans as the best of them are, and as the others should wish to be." His analysis of the conditions surrounding American literature is perhaps not new or surprising to a careful or intelligent observer. He says:



HUGO MUNSTERBERG,

Professor of Psychology in Harvard University. He says of Americans: "Indomitable will, fertile invention, Puritan morals and irrepressible humor form a combination that has never before been known. The times seem ripe for something great."

"There is no absolutely new note in American literature, and especially no one trait which is common to all American writings and which is not found in any European. If there is anything unique in American literature it is perhaps the peculiar combination of elements long familiar. An enthusiastic American has said that to be American means to be both fresh and mature, and this is in fact a combination which is new, and which well characterizes the literary temperament of the country. . . . . .

"To be fresh means to be confident, optimistic, and eager, lively, unspoiled, and courageous; it means to strive toward one's best ideals with the ardor of youth; while to be mature means to understand things in their historic connection, in their true proportions, and with a due feeling for form; to be mature means to be simple and reposeful, and not breathlessly anxious over the outcome of things. To be sure, this optimistic feeling of strength, this enthusiastic self-confidence, is hardly able to seize the things which are finest and most subtle. It looks only into the full sunlight, never into the shadows with their less obvious beauties. There are no half-tones, no sentimental and uncertain moods; wonder and meditation come into the soul only with pessimism. And most of all, the enthusiasm of youth not only looks on but wants to work, to change and to make over; and so the American is less an artist than an insistent herald. Behind the observer stands always the reformer, enthusiastic to improve the world. On the other hand, the disillusionment of maturity should have cooled the passions, soothed hot inspiration, and put the breathless tragic muse to sleep. It avoids dramatic excitement, holds aloof, and looks on with quiet friendliness and sober understanding of mankind. So it happens that finished art is incompatible with such an enthusiastic eagerness to press onward, and sensuous emotion is incompatible with such an idealism. And so we find in the American temperament a finished feeling for form, but a more ethical than artistic content, and we find humor without its favorite attendant of sentiment. Of course, the exceptions crowd quickly to mind to contradict the formula: had not Poe the demoniac inspiration; was not Hawthorne a thorough artist; did not Whitman violate all rules of form; and does not Henry James see the half-tones? And still such variations from the usual are due to exceptional circumstances, and every formula can apply only in a general way."

Turning to the question of the theater, Professor Münsterberg admits that "the American's natural versatility gives him a great advantage for a theatrical career." The equipments of the stage, he says, "leave very little to be desired, and the settings sometimes surpass anything which can be seen in Europe." These things, together with the "American good-humor, verve, and self-assurance, and the beauty of American women, bring many a graceful comedy and light opera to a really artistic performance." The author adds the following words of criticism:

"But the general public is not the only nor even the most important factor; the discriminating public is not satisfied. Artistic productions of the more serious sort are drowned out by a great tide of worthless entertainments; and however amusing or diverting the comedies, farces, rural pieces, operettas, melodramas, and dramatized novels may be, they are thoroughly unworthy of a people that is so ceaselessly striving for cultivation and self-perfection. Such pieces should not have the assurance to invade the territory of true art. And, altho the lack of good plays is less noticeable, if one looks at the announcements of what is to be given in New York on any single evening, it is tremendously borne home on one by the bad practise of repeating the plays night after night for many weeks, so that a person who wants to see real art has soon seen every production which is worth while. In this respect New York is distinctly behind Paris, Berlin, or Vienna, altho about on a level with London; and in the other large cities of America the situation is rather worse. Everywhere the stage caters to the vulgar taste, and for one Hamlet there are ten Geishas."

Professor Münsterberg acknowledges that Sargent and Whistler are probably the two greatest painters that America has produced, but he doubts whether the art of the New World would be justly represented if it sent across the ocean only these two "pampered and somewhat whimsical artists." They are not truly representative because they are "essentially portraitists," and "it becomes plainer every day that landscape painting is the most typical American means of expression." Moreover, Europe can have no adequate opportunity properly to estimate American art "because the best talent is busied with the larger pieces intended for wall decoration." The writer continues:

"In painting, as in so many other branches, the United States has developed from the provincial to the cosmopolitan and from the cosmopolitan to the national, and is just now taking this last step. It is very characteristic that the untutored provincial has grown to the national only by passing through a cosmopolitan stage. The faltering powers of the beginner do not achieve a self-conscious expression of national individuality until they have first industriously and systematically imitated foreign methods, and so attained a complete mastery of the medium of expression."

Of all the arts, architecture was the first to become self-assertive and individual, says the writer; and it is the one which has reached the highest development at the present time, in that it expresses the community idea. "The architect plans his work from year to year more with the painter and sculptor in mind, so that the erection of new buildings and the growth and wealth of the people benefit not merely architecture, but the other arts as well."

The impulse which at present is to be detected behind the literary and artistic life of the Americans is, in the opinion of Professor Münsterberg, the development of national feeling. He says:

"The American feels that he has entered the exclusive circle of world powers, and must like the best of them realize and express his own nature. He is conscious of a mission, and the national feeling is unified much less by a common past than by a common ideal for the future. His national feeling is not sentimental, but

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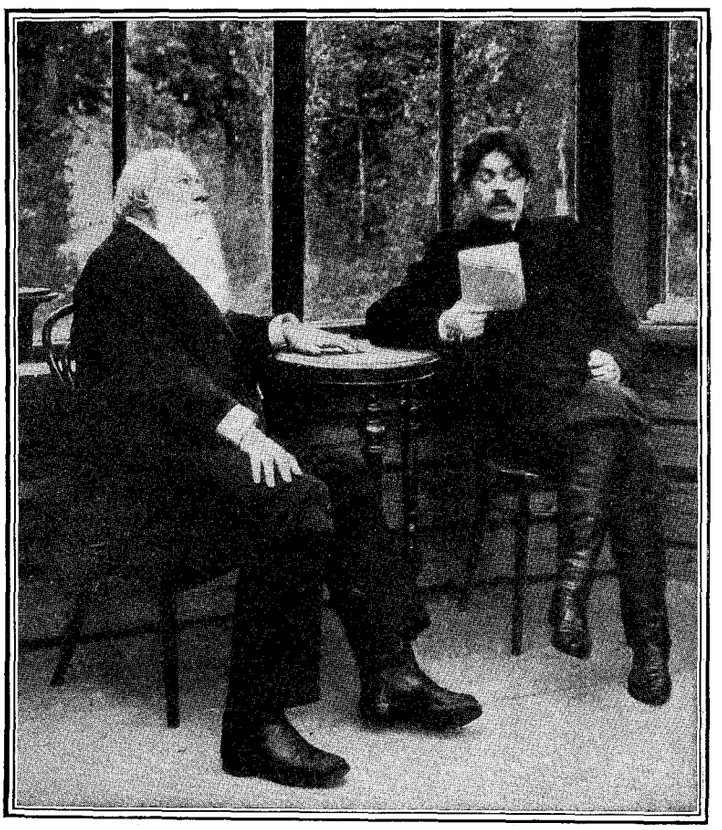
aggressive; the American knows that this goal is to become typically American. All this gives him the courage to be individual, to have his own points of view, and since he has now studied history and mastered technique, this means no longer to be odd and freakish, but to be truly original and creative. He is now for the first time thoroughly aware what a wealth of artistic problems is offered by his own continent, by his history, by his surroundings, and by his social conditions. And just as American science has been most successful in developing the history, geography, geology, zoology, and anthropology of the American continent, so now his new art and literature are looking about for American material.

"His hopes are high; he sees indications of a new art approaching which will excite the admiration of the world. He feels that the great writer is not far off who will express the New World in the great American novel. Who shall say that these hopes may not be realized to-morrow? For it is certain that he enjoys an unusual combination of favorable conditions for developing a world force. Here are a people thoroughly educated in the appreciation of literature and art—a people in the heyday of success, with their national feeling growing, and having, by reason of their economic prosperity, the amplest means for encouraging art; a people who find in their own country untold treasures of artistic and literary problems, and who in the structure of their government and customs favor talent wherever it is found; a people who have learned much in cosmopolitan studies and to-day have mastered every technique, who have absorbed the temperament and ambitions of the most diverse races and yet developed their own consistent, national consciousness, in which indomitable will, fertile invention, Puritan morals, and irrepressible humor form a combination that has never before been known. The times seem ripe for something great."

A JAPANESE VIEW OF LAFCADIO HEARN.

LAFCADIO HEARN is compared by the editor of the *Taiyo* magazine (Tokyo) with Sir Edwin Arnold, the author of "The Light of Asia." These two men, he avers, stand out from among all the foreign admirers and interpreters of Japan. Hearn was not so much a student of Japan as a man who "blessed and loved" the country, showing the genuineness of his sentiment by marrying a Japanese woman and becoming a naturalized citizen. Japan, as pictured by him, is "a heaven filled with all the beauties of the universe, to be sung of, not criticized, to be observed with a poet's eye, not studied with scientific analysis." The editor continues: "He appreciated the refined qualities that have been peculiarly developed in Japan. He perfectly understood the meaning of words . . . . that could never have been understood by other foreigners." But, in spite of all his Japanese knowledge, Hearn is declared to have had very few personal friends among the Japanese people. During the period of his professorship at the Imperial University of Tokyo he used to walk directly back and forth from his residence to the lecture-hall, rarely meeting or exchanging words with other professors. It almost seemed as if he tried to conceal from the Japanese his admiration for their country. He was never in any sense a "boomer" for Japan, nor did he expect any reward from Japan for his writings. He was content to pursue his researches and to win his reward in that way. The editor concludes:

"Edwin Arnold, for his service in introducing Japan to the world, has received a gold medal from the Mikado. Lafcadio Hearn, whose service in a similar direction was not less, if not more, than that of Arnold, died without receiving a single medal. Nevertheless, he died without a complaint. There was something in this man's personality; he was more than a mere man of letters."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



MAXIM GORKY READING THE MANUSCRIPT OF HIS LATEST WORK TO THE RUSSIAN ART CRITIC, W. STASOFF.

GORKY'S NEW PLAY—AN ATTACK ON THE "CLASSES."

AFTER an interval of several months, Maxim Gorky has reappeared on the literary battle-ground with a new comedy-drama which, more than any previous play of his, is a challenge to, an assault upon, the cultured classes, as distinguished from the masses. It is entitled "Dachnike" (Summer Cottagers), a figurative and symbolic title. The drama does not deal with the temporary affairs and circumstances of cottagers enjoying their vacations in the country. Gorky applies the term to the whole so-called "intellectual" element, which he ridicules and savagely satirizes.

The play has just been produced in St. Petersburg, and while the dramatic critics comment on it adversely they admit that, in the present state of public opinion, the theater-going public rather likes it. There is much preaching in it, exactly of the kind generally heard in the press apropos of the zemstvo agitation and the revival of interest in the peasant and his needs, and all the "speeches" are warmly applauded.

The critic of the *Novoye Vremya*, who says the play is "an unsuccessful work of a plainly talented writer," characterizes it further as follows:

"The fundamental idea of the drama is as follows: Our *intelligencia*, feeble, impotent, timid, useless, has lost all organic connection with the nation. All of its members desire to live, to be happy, to do something, but none of them really lives, labors, or realizes happiness. They are all 'cottagers,' as it were. They are accidental sojourners; they come and go; they have no roots or attachments—they leave nothing behind them except dirt. . . They live in some small town tributary to Moscow. They visit one another; they make love and marry; they try to amuse themselves and are at a loss to know how. . . . Everything is empty, hollow, idle, and the only way out for them is to devote themselves unselfishly to the service of the masses below them, who are rooted and fixed and have real cares and real interests."

Among the characters portrayed by Gorky are these: An unscrupulous lawyer who promotes questionable affairs; an engineer who builds unsound

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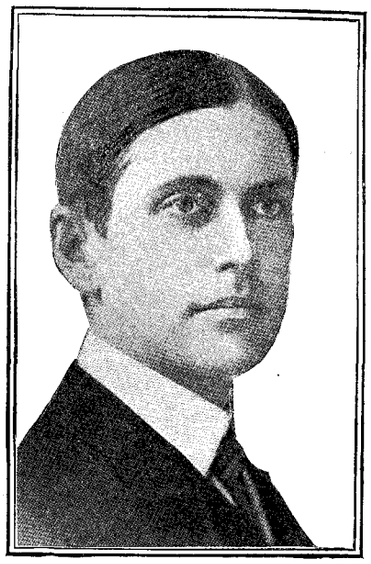
structures, and has no other thought than money; a windbag, who writes grandiloquently about truth and justice and duty, and who is a thoroughpaced rascal and corruptionist; a nondescript good-for-nothing who has no definite occupation; a woman physician of the "new" type; and some minor personages. The only positive characters are those who denounce the whole environment as vile and contemptible, and exhort these worthless representatives of "culture" to make an effort to find honest, fruitful occupation. The heroine of the play is a certain Varvona, the wife of a physician, who "is one of the people" and therefore healthy-minded, self-reliant, and full of noble purposes. Her brother, Vlas, is another "Protestant," and in company with a more practical representative of culture than the others, who has managed to accumulate a million without losing his ideals and aspirations, Vlas finally goes into the country to undertake some relief work for the peasantry.

There are many incidents and episodes in the play, but there is no definite, vital central theme. There is some love-making and an attempt at suicide, but the main interest of the scenes lies in the exposure of the triviality and futility of the life of these "intelligent" people.

The critic of the *Novosti*, friendly to Gorky, complains nevertheless of the injustice of the picture. There are such characters, he says, as the dramatist has painted, but they are not typical of Russian culture. Besides, futility may be due to external conditions and is not necessarily associated with corruption. The *intelligencia* may have accomplished little for the "masses," but it should be judged not by mere practical results, but by its motives and aims and strivings. People who make sacrifices, who suffer for their ideals, are not "cottagers," and when they leave the scene they leave something else behind than rubbish and dirt.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



ARTHUR FARWELL,
Whose efforts to promote the highest interests of American music are pronounced "the most determined, enlightened and altruistic" that have yet been made.

THE NEW AMERICAN MUSIC.

A PRESS was recently established at Newton Center, Mass., for the purpose of publishing native American music, considered solely upon its artistic merits and entirely aside from the question of profitable popularity. It owes its existence to the efforts of Arthur Farwell, a pupil of Humperdinck and one of the younger group of contemporary American composers, and it is pronounced "the most determined, enlightened, and altruistic endeavor to advance the highest interests of American music that has yet been made." Mr. Lawrence Gilman, who uses the words we have quoted in an article in *The North American Review* (December), goes on to characterize the best of the music so far issued by this press as "music so untrammeled in its inspiration, so heedful and competent in its artistry, and of so challenging an independence in its construction and intent, that one would be venturesome who should assume to set bounds upon the possibilities of the creative power which, in the aggregate, achieved it." He says further:

"Let any one who doubts the presence of an original and vital impulse in our native music consider some of Mr. Farwell's most significant publications. Turn, for example, to Mr. Henry F. Gilbert's 'Two Verlaine Moods,' a brace of poetic paraphrases for piano. Mr. Gilbert is, like his fellow musician, a resolute independent in his ideas and practises. His imagination is most readily kindled by the modern or the esoteric in poetry and thought; so that one finds him resorting continually for subject-matter and inspiration to such masters of the present as Maeterlinck, Flaubert, Verlaine. In the 'Two Verlaine Moods,' one notes immediately the authentic quality and color of the French lyrist; but here, too, is a dexterous and fluent art, an art distinguished and vivid, forceful and subtly articulated. A more recent work of Mr. Gilbert's is his paraphrase, for piano, of Poe's fantasy in prose, 'The Island of the Fay.' Mr. Gilbert has found a congenial and grateful theme for musical exposition in the poet's conception of a magical episode of haunted forest depths and mysterious fairy presences. He has reflected precisely the mood of dream and remote enchantment conveyed by the words, and has composed a tone-paraphrase of memorable beauty and vividness. There are many passages of rare imaginative force, and the writing has an evident distinction.

"Mr. Farwell's 'Domain of Hurakan,' a study in elemental symbolism, is an equally remarkable piece of writing of a wholly different kind. It is a fantasy conceived in the spirit of the Indian creation myths, a finely vigorous and notable achievement. There are few more masterly passages in any music of American composition than the superb climax with which the work ends, and the insinuatingly lovely episode in B-major, with its eloquent intimation of nocturnal moods. A setting of a poem by William Blake also lingers in the memory (altho here, for a moment, one is reminded that Wagner lived and wrote), together with a hauntingly poetic impression, for oboe and piano, inspired by Mr. Arthur Davies's painting, 'Morfydd': a girl seated upon a bank of moss in a deep wood, dreamily plaiting her hair, while a youth beside her plays upon a harp. Then there is Mr. Farwell's piano piece, 'Toward the Dream,' an expression in free and ample form of the idea of aspiration and noble striving. In its poetic substance the music recalls Schumann's 'Aufschwung,' tho Mr. Farwell has things of quite a different kind to say. A piano piece by Mr. Edward Burlingame Hill, 'At the Grave of a Hero,' is profound and true in feeling and impressive in utterance. And one must recall with a very keen pleasure Mr. Harvey Worthington Loomis's felicitous arrangement of two Verlaine poems, 'On the Terrace' and 'In the Moon Shower'—the last contrived, curiously but with exquisite effect, as a spoken recitation, with obligato of piano, violin, and voice; a movement from a piano sonata by Mr. Farwell; Mr. Gilbert's ardent and colorful scene for dramatic soprano, 'Sulammbô's Invocation to Tänith' (the text from the novel of Flaubert); and his poignant setting of the 'Lament of Deirdré' from Ferguson's 'The Death of the Children of Usnach': music saturated with the sense of that 'heart-break over fallen things,' that wildness of passionate revolt, that tragic and piercing melancholy, which are Celtic—and overwhelming."

Mr. Gilman indicates "the essential nature, the purport, of this vivid new impulse in our native musical art" as follows:

"One would not be too impetuous in definition who should assert that it is, in essence, a force making most directly for *liberation*: for a broader range of content and an expansion of the expressional vehicle. That, beyond doubt, is its unique and most admirable characteristic. We are to learn that the whole of life and experience, in their emotional substance, is to be regarded as fit subject-matter for the musical artist who shall bring to them the requisite power of clairvoyant intuition and selective intelligence. These ardent young innovators have definitely pointed the way; they have laid under contribution a territory as illimitable as it is rewarding. Human experience, distilled in the substance of poetry, of drama, of painting; the manifold aspects and contours of the natural world, even the subtler intimations of spiritual consciousness, are, they teach us, susceptible of the most luminous musical manifestation. They have found their inspiration in regions widely various and apart, yet all of valid import and significance.

"This of the content and substance of their work; of the form in which they have cast it, of the expressional means they have chosen to employ, one may say that it also is the signal of a new and vivifying principle. Here, too, the movement is clearly in the

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way of liberation, of an extension and enlargement of the expressional medium—these, as Fiona Macleod has but lately written of certain of the modern Celtic poets, are 'artists curiously persuading art.' The utmost freedom is exercised in the conception, articulation and embodiment of the musical idea. The traditional restrictions in the matter of key-relationships, harmonic consistency, and melodic structure, of which music has been growing more and more intolerant since Wagner pointed the way to complete emancipation, are here unhesitatingly cast aside—with, in some instances, an even more persistently adventurous spirit than is exemplified in the brilliant audacities of Richard Strauss. The governing aim is to achieve the quintessence of expressional power, the precise embodiment and equivalent, at every point, of the particular thought and emotional intention of the subject which has been chosen for representation."

This new movement, says Mr. Gilman in conclusion, is not to be regarded as necessarily signifying the existence of a distinctive "American" school. It professes no virtue merely for being of American origin. The music which Mr. Farwell presents to our attention "is, as it happens, American," and it is "abundantly characteristic"; but "first and above all, it is excellent and moving art."

DIFFICULTIES OF MODERN DRAMATISTS.

DECADENCE in the art of playwriting is the burden of many complaints of contemporary critics and theater-goers. Productions of our day are compared with those of other periods, and invariably to the disadvantage of the former. But there is another side to the case, according to M. Alfred Capus, one of the most successful and prolific and "literary" of the French playwrights. In an introduction to a new work by Edmond Stoulbig, "The Annals of the Drama and of Music," M. Capus discusses the peculiar and insufficiently recognized difficulties which those who write for the contemporary stage have to overcome.

He begins by saying that there are no rules for the writing of plays. It is impossible to say precisely what qualities make a play great and enduring. Order, clearness, logic are supposed to be necessary; yet "Hamlet" and "The Misanthrope" owe at least part of their glory to their enigmatic character. They are imperishable, tho each generation gives them its own construction and lends them something of "its anguish, uncertainty, thought." Each writer must follow his own temperament and tendencies, after all, and woe to him who observes the "general laws" of the art of the drama!

Coming to the particular conditions and requirements of our own time, M. Capus writes:

"Never was the dramatic author called upon to place on the boards an epoch so difficult to study and portray as ours is. To employ a photographic phrase, our epoch does not 'pose' readily. It does not stand still. At the moment when it seems to quiet down, to remain immovable, and you think you can reproduce it, it suddenly makes a brusque motion and spoils your image. By its unforeseen characteristics and agitation, by its prodigious surprises in events and ideas, by its alternations of fever and indifference, by the multitudes of novel types, masculine and feminine, which it unceasingly creates, and by the changes to which it subjects old types, it makes the task of stage portrayal, by the devices which have served hitherto, practically impossible.

"These devices lack the elasticity and the variety requisite to give characters 'the tone of their time,' without which tone the auditors do not become interested in or moved by the play. . . .

"What, however, is the principal difficulty encountered? It is this—that it is no longer possible to present general types and through them paint whole classes or even sections and fractions of society. Fewer and fewer are the traits common to individuals of the same social group, even where their fortunes and mode of life are similar. Nothing was more convenient for dramatic purposes than to have at one's disposition the general outlines of the typical *bourgeois*, the military man, the aristocrat, the *grande dame*, the young girl, the workingwoman, the courtesan, etc. It was sufficient to add two or three particular traits to any one of these known characters, and your action could proceed without long explanations."

As an illustration, M. Capus refers to the "Voltairean" of the dramas and comedies of the former generation. Everybody knew and recognized him—in politics, in business, in society the "Voltairean" stood for a certain attitude and stock of ideas. But he has disappeared, and now you have clericals, nationalists, socialists, radicals, and what not, all equally dogmatic and partizan, all equally ferocious in controversy, in spite of their many differences. The laws of education alone have profoundly modified the structure of society. How radically the position of woman has changed, industrially and socially, and what new characters we see in consequence! There are new intermediate classes in society, new shades of opinion and sentiment, and to do justice to all the manner, the *technique*, the subjects, even the dialogue of the stage must change. M. Capus continues:

"How can one hope to reproduce, without violating the admirable principle of separation of *genres*, the amazing and rich confusion of our epoch, the combinations of the dramatic and comic, the insensibility and the violence, the incoherence and the logic, which one observes in the majority of modern characters and situations? A play pretending to give a faithful image of our time can be neither consistently tragic nor consistently cheerful. And yet, if we are to place upon the stage a *mélange* of all forms, by what delicate methods are we to preserve that unity of mood, that harmony in variety, which must be attained in order to impress the audience?"

ALFRED CAPUS,

French critic and playwright, who says: "Never has the dramatist had to execute more perilous exercises before people more distrustful, more attentive, and more enlightened."

A further difficulty, according to M. Capus, is the result of the superior culture of the public. The modern playgoer is sophisticated, experienced, and somewhat indifferent. He reads a great deal, and he has insight. He is not easily touched. He does not confound brutality with force, obscurity with depth, sentimentality with sentiment. He demands sincerity and truth, and he readily detects false notes, misrepresentations, and artifices. In short, he has grown harder to please while life has grown more complex.

"Never," in a word, concludes M. Capus, "has the dramatist had to execute more perilous exercises before people more distrustful, more attentive, and more enlightened."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

BOSTON'S DISPUTED VELASQUEZ.

A PICTURE recently acquired by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and placed on exhibition as a Velasquez portrait of Philip IV., of Spain, is just now the subject of spirited controversy in American art circles. It was secured for the museum by Prof. Denman W. Ross, one of the trustees, who bought it, for $51,000, from Francisco, Prince of Bourbon and Duke of Anjou. Doubts as to the authenticity of the picture have been raised by New York critics and art dealers, several of whom declare that the sale was a "put-up job." Mr. Charles de Kay discusses the whole matter in the New York *Times* as follows:

"People who have never studied old pictures often scoff at the tremendous and to them absurd importance laid on the question

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whether a painting is original or copy. But it is obvious that a museum, at any rate, can not afford to pay high for a copy which merely approaches the original without giving the master's finest spirit, his touch, and sign manual in the sweep of his brush. A copy may do for the ordinary visitor, but not for the student of art, and it is to provide unquestionable works of masters for the student of art that museums pay such huge sums. If this canvas is a fine old copy of the period it might be worth $1,000; if it is genuine, the sum, rumor says, the museum paid or it—$51,000—is not at all excessive. In London it might reach double or triple that sum at public auction, such is the dearth of paintings by Velasquez, such is the craving for genuine canvases by him among the museums. Indeed, the cynical commercial person who deals in pictures might and probably does say it is hardly possible that a real and undoubted full-length by Velasquez which has been known to be in the market would be sold at such a price, for it would be a bad bargain for the seller. Which, then, such a cynic might conclude, is the more likely to have been taken in, Prof. Denman Ross of Cambridge or the Prince de Bourbon? *C'est selon!*

"Altho Velasquez did not have a number of apprentices under him like his friend Rubens, and, owing to the somewhat limited circle of his admirers in Madrid and Rome there was less demand for copies of his work than his extraordinary genius might have warranted, yet he did have fellow workers under him, and, indeed, his own family contained a convinced pupil in Juan Bautista del Maso, who, in 1634, married his daughter Francisca. He painted in the style of his father-in-law, but at a long interval. Then there was his mulatto servant, Juan de Parejo, who surprised everybody by picking up an art education while attending Velasquez. So that a very excellent copy of a painting by the master might have been made by some other hand than the master's. But, apart from the question of original or copy, one can not examine the Boston picture without coming to the conclusion that it is a fine canvas, and on its own merits may hold its place on the walls of a public gallery."

"PHILIP IV, OF SPAIN."

A Spanish picture recently purchased by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and exhibited as a genuine Velasquez.

The Boston *Transcript* comments:

"After all, the picture itself offers the best, the final, and conclusive evidence as to its own genuineness. That it is a copy is an untenable theory. That it portrays any other person than Philip IV. of Spain is equally untenable. If Velasquez did not paint it, who did? A painter who painted just as well as Velasquez, and just exactly in the same style, so exactly, that all the experts might study this work for a year and a day without finding any difference."

The Boston Museum has appointed a committee, consisting of William M. Chase, Charles Hopkinson, Edmund C. Tarbell, and Francis Lathrop, to make an examination of the picture and report fully upon it. Says the New York *Evening Post:*

"The case of the Boston Velasquez is in some ways instructive. As soon as a doubt was cast upon the portrait of Philip IV., purchased last October, the authorities of the Museum of Fine Arts invited experts to pass upon the matter. These disagreeing doctors are working over the canvas with magnifying glasses, and soon the question will be settled one way or the other. Only contrast with this the fate of the five reputed Velasquezes which have hung in the Metropolitan Museum for about fifteen years. Critics have done more or less work upon them, which the museum has disregarded. Severer students admit only one to be by the master's hand, the more liberal sort concede three. All agree that two are merely old copies. So the matter—from a museum point of view, an important one—remains in the air to-day, and the museum authorities have given no indication that they even felt there was a question to be settled. The contrast of the enterprising scholarship of the Boston people with the indifferentism of our New York administrators of the museum, is by no means flattering to us."

STEVENSON'S CONTINUING POPULARITY.

TEN years have passed since the death of Robert Louis Stevenson. This period of time, so far as literature is concerned, is probably long enough to show the difference between perishable and durable stuff. Stevenson's work, it is claimed, has successfully endured this preliminary test of time. But more than this, it has "endured as a whole," maintains a writer in the London *Outlook:*

"It would not have been wonderful if one or two books had lived, and the rest been quickly forgotten; but it is more than a little wonderful that it should all live, and live as a body. Perhaps not more than two or three of his books, had they stood alone, would have been worthy of immortality; but there is no one of them that, in its relation to the whole, is not thus worthy; and no one of them, however imperfect, the absence of which would not have robbed the whole body of work of some of its excellence. In a word, Stevenson's books were his life. Analyze them as you will, add them together, and you will still arrive at a total curiously less than their effect as a whole; indeed, his work is a defiance of mathematical fact, for the whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

That Stevenson's popularity with the coming generation is no less than with that which discovered him, the writer believes there can be no doubt; "but when we come to analyze his influence in the world," he continues, "we are upon less sure ground." Attempting this analysis, he says, in part:

"As a master in the mere craft of writing he has, of course, great influence on other men's methods of writing; but then that is not really a very vital or far-reaching influence. As a teller of tales he is inimitably entertaining to all his readers; but the influence of an entertainment passes. Perhaps his greatest influence lies in the fact that, more almost than any other man in the nineteenth century, he has for twenty years been a direct and powerful influence upon most other men who write, and through them upon a world far wider than he alone could have reached. . . . . .

"Stevenson holds his place in the world of English letters by the firmest of all bonds—the bonds of affection. And that is the work of the spirit, far more than of the deft craftsman. His strong and resonant prose, with all its airs and graces—for he raised mannerisms to the level of genius and virtue—is the private heritage of men of letters; it can not appeal, in all its exquisite detail, to the reader who merely reads. It is only to those who, while they read, go through the process of writing also, and follow with wonder and joy in the footprints of the author at his task, that it is so enthralling and inspiring. The real influence of Stevenson in the world to-day is the priceless influence of a brave heart. It is his front toward life that matters, and his tonic, stimulating optimism. He presented in a new and persuading form certain noble philosophies; he flew certain signals of courage, of decency, of saneness, of kindness, of common sense, that brought all the young and brave and imprudent hearts of his generation rallying round him. The influence has lasted, the flag still flies untattered; and in the new generation that is being enthralled by the tales of adventure, the new adolescence that is being helped and encouraged by the essays, and the new criticism that welcomes, as did the old, the perfect prose of such masterpieces as 'Dr. Jekyll,' 'The Merry Men,' and 'Ollala,' we may read and mark the evidence of Stevenson's vitality. How many a man and woman lives more bravely, finds life a better and cleaner destiny, and cuts altogether a better figure in the world, because of that lively grace and virility? That is where the spirit lives; that is where the man remains an inspiring companion, in spite of the perishing remnants of the Væa mountain-top; that is where his voice still sounds in the world's harmony, and heartens, amid the diminishing concert of systems and religions, the full and persistent chorus of human endeavor."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

AN ODD WAR-VESSEL.

A NEW type of floating battery patented by Anson Phelps Stokes was recently described by the inventor in a paper read before the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers. Says *Marine Engineering* (December), in giving an abstract of the paper:

"The plans call for a semiglobular vessel, 180 feet in diameter, 36 feet draft, and 24,650 tons displacement. The hull is built of steel throughout and the sides are heavily armored. The thickest armor is at the water-line, 24 inches maximum, while the top sides are 15 inches, and the turrets the same thickness. The bottom of the hull is supplied with 1-inch armor. The armament consists of six 12-inch guns mounted in pairs in turrets; two 15-inch guns; eight 6-inch guns, besides smaller rapid-fire guns which, it must be admitted, is a light battery for so great a displacement.

"The hull is subdivided by decks and bulkheads into a great number of water-tight compartments, while the entire superstructure is separated into three equal segments by three radial bulkheads. Each one of these has its own boilers and machinery, with the idea of making each independent of the other in case of accident. There are in all four engines, one in each of the forward segments and two in the after-segment. Calculations and drawings have been carried out in considerable detail, and it is claimed by the author that such a floating battery is practically impregnable, and is indispensable in successful defense of our coast ports and of the Caribbean Sea, now such a strategic point owing to the building of the Panama Canal."

The following interesting comments on Mr. Stokes's proposed vessel were made by Com. William Hovgaard of the Danish navy, at the same meeting:

"Some thirty years ago, or perhaps more, that same proposition was made in Denmark. It was then proposed to build what were called floating forts—essentially the same as this—to be used for the defense of Copenhagen. The matter was very carefully gone into at that time by the Danish Government, and, after consideration, it was found preferable to build a fort on shore. . . . . .

"The reason why the Danish Government adopted that course, and did not go in for the floating batteries, I think, was the same that had made the Russians abandon the *Poprovsk*, namely, that such batteries, of course, however strongly you armor them, and however carefully you subdivide them, are always ultimately liable to destruction by torpedoes and mines—possibly by ramming. Moreover, it was found that the *Poprovsk* steered very badly. Going up stream it would steer very fairly well. Going down stream it would be entirely unmanageable. Also, the propulsive coefficient being very low, it was impossible to obtain any considerable speed without a very undue expenditure of power. The great size, I am afraid, will cause difficulty in itself, because you must have docks to take the ships into, and I think that would be a very serious problem, to construct docks with nearly 200 feet gate entrance and 30 feet depth. They would, at any rate, be exceedingly expensive.

"Turning the guns by turning the whole ship I think is likely to prove very unsatisfactory, in a ship that is so unmanageable as a circular ship is bound to be. The slightest lack of symmetry in the propulsive forces will send the ship turning round and round, and with the tremendous moment of inertia it is likely that it will be extremely difficult to stop her again—at least at any desired point."

The matter was further discussed by Col. Edwin A. Stevens, whose remarks were rather more favorable to Mr. Stokes's plan than those of Captain Hovgaard. Colonel Stevens said:

"It is rather curious that the first reported experiments against armor were made with the view of determining the availability of a battery very much similar to this one, during the war of 1812. Of course the thing was a very crude idea compared with Mr. Stokes's suggestion. The battery, of course, never was built—I don't know whether it even progressed as far as the design. She was to be anchored similarly to this one from the center, either by a mushroom anchor or by a spud, and was to rotate by screws, and fire her guns as they came around.

"The same objection that Captain Hovgaard has raised as to the training of the guns on account of the instability of steering was raised during the war to the gunboat *Naugatuck*, which carried a 100-pound Parrot rifle absolutely fixed. The objection made by all naval officers was that it was absolutely impossible to hit anything with her. As a matter of fact, she turned out to be the most accurate shooting-boat in the United States navy at the time.

"I have always had a fancy for floating batteries. Small, iron-clad vessels were used, I think, at the siege of Gibraltar, in 1804 or 1807. They were certainly also used by the French in the Crimean war. It would, of course, be impossible to drive any such design as this at any high speed, but it does seem that when we have just sacrificed speed so that a vessel can not maneuver in squadron, it can not run away or overtake other vessels, it makes very little difference whether you have a little more speed or not. In other words, if we compare the usefulness of a design of this kind with the usefulness of our monitors, we have got a collection of vessels of that type which can not run away from anything nor catch anything that merits the name of a war-ship, and that cost money, and which, I believe, will generally be conceded are not a match for any vessel carrying anything like their main battery. The question is whether a floating fort, impregnable so far as artillery is concerned, would not be a better investment of our money than we have in the monitor."

THE COMPARATIVE FOOD-VALUE OF POTATOES AND CHESTNUTS.

COMMENTING on the fact that hot potatoes and hot chestnuts, both roasted in the open air, are the principal articles of food on sale in London streets, *The Lancet* says:

"It is an interesting fact that the potato and the chestnut have been picked out as practically the only foods offered for sale in this way, and on reflection we can see that, after all, this choice is based on sound dietetics. According to a recent analysis of the raw chestnut we find that its composition is as follows:

"Water	53.640	per cent.
Proteid	3.710	"
Mineral matter	.870	"
Fat	2.160	"
Starch	31.790	"
Sugar and gum	6.100	"
Fiber	1.730	"

"The composition of the raw potato is:

"Water	76.700	per cent.
Proteid	1.200	"
Mineral matter	.900	"
Fat	.100	"
Starch	19.100	"
Sugar and gum	1.400	"
Fiber	.600	"

"The chestnut contains, therefore, less water, more proteid, more starch, more fat, but less mineral matter than the potato. The chestnut is, in fact, more nutritious than the potato, not because it contains different constituents but because weight for weight it contains a greater proportion of them. The deficiency in fat is made up in the potato by a pat of butter; in the chestnut there is already an important proportion of fat. The chestnut, however, is the most digestible of nuts, because it does not contain an excess of fat. Most nuts contain between 50 and 60 per cent. of fat. Both the chestnut and the potato provide a nutritive meal, rich in heat- and energy-giving material, and the starch in them is peculiarly easy of digestion. For reasons already given the chestnut is dietetically superior to the potato, especially if the latter be boiled, as in the process some of the nutrient materials are lost. In the cooking of both the chestnut and the potato by baking the effect is much the same as by boiling: the natural water of the nut and of the tuber is partly expelled as steam which swells or cooks the starchy particles. Chestnuts lose but little of their nutritive constituents when boiled, but they are best baked or roasted, as dietetically also is the potato. It is a pity that the chestnut is not appreciated in this country as it is in France where the peasantry find it a very sustaining and agreeable food. There are enormous quantities of food in the shape of chestnuts wasted in this country and yet it is a particularly economical form of food, for a given area of ground, it is stated, produces the maximum amount of food

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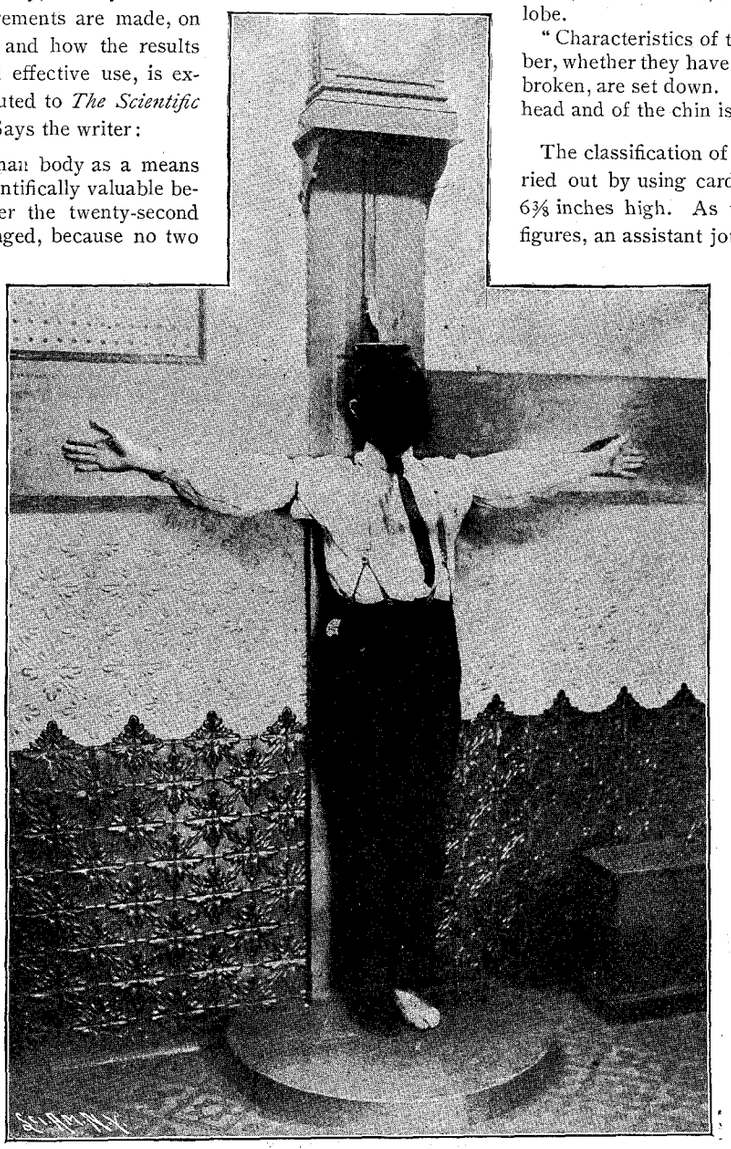
possible when it is planted with chestnut-trees. And so the man with the chestnuts on his red-hot tea-tray conveys a lesson which might be taken more seriously than it is."

IDENTIFICATION BY MEASUREMENT.

IT is now many years since the first adoption in Paris of Alphonse Bertillon's system of measurement for criminals with a view to their subsequent identification. Its use has spread over the civilized world and has reached a high point of development in the larger cities of this country, notably in New York. Just how the measurements are made, on which the system is based, and how the results are classified for quick and effective use, is explained in an article contributed to *The Scientific American* (December 17). Says the writer:

"Measurements of the human body as a means of identification become scientifically valuable because the human frame after the twenty-second year of age remains unchanged, because no two human skeletons are exactly alike, and because the bones of the body may be measured easily and exactly. In the Bertillon system three sets of measurements are taken—measurements of the body at large (standing height, length of the outstretched arms from finger-tip to finger-tip, and length of the trunk); measurements of the head (length of the head, width of the head, width of the cheek-bones, length of the right ear, width of the right ear); measurements of the limbs (length of the left foot, length of the left middle finger, length of the left finger, length of the left forearm). Besides noting these measurements, scars, peculiarities of personal appearance, manner, and speech are observed; the color of the eyes and morphological characteristics, such as the shape of the forehead, nose, ear, and chin, are studied.

"The anthropological measurements are taken by instruments comparatively few, simple in construction and manipulation, and withal extremely accurate. That the metric system is used goes without saying."



THE HEIGHT OF THE CRIMINAL IS OBTAINED BY MEANS OF A WOODEN SQUARE UPON A GRADUATED METER, SECURED TO THE WALL. THE DISTANCE FROM FINGER TIP TO FINGER TIP IS OBTAINED BY EXTENDING THE ARMS IN THE SHAPE OF A CROSS.

Courtesy of *The Scientific American* (New York).

The height of the criminal, we are told, is obtained by means of a wooden square of special form upon a graduated meter, secured vertically to the wall, against which the subject, barefooted, is placed. The length and width of the skull are taken with a caliper compass, while the diameters of the right ear are measured by means of a small caliper rule having a fixed and a movable jaw, not unlike those of the ordinary monkey-wrench. The feet and hands are measured by means of a large caliper rule, while the forearm is measured from the point of the elbow to the extremity of the middle finger, the forearm being bent at an acute angle with the arm, and the hand extended flat on a table with the nails upward. The table used is rather high and narrow, with trestle-formed supports. The writer goes on to say:

"These measurements must be taken accurately. In the Police Department of New York a criminal is measured and photographed in about ten minutes.

"As we have already stated, peculiar markings and morphological characteristics are also noted. The color of the aureola and periphery of the eyes is ascertained, together with other peculiarities. The form of the nose is observed—whether the bridge be curved, straight, or convex, whether the base is elevated, horizontal, or depressed. The size of the ear, whether it be large or small, is determined, and also the formation of the lobe.

"Characteristics of the teeth, such as their number, whether they have been filled, whether any are broken, are set down. The inclination of the forehead and of the chin is also observed."

The classification of these measurements is carried out by using cards each 5⅝ inches wide and 6⅜ inches high. As the measurer calls out the figures, an assistant jots them down upon a card. In sorting a quantity of these cards, the first step is to distribute them according to length of head into three primary divisions—"short," "medium," and "long." The medium length of the head is considered to vary from 185 to 190 millimeters. All above this are regarded as long; all below, short. To quote further:

"We have now three classes of heads, numbering [for example] each twenty thousand. Each of these single classes is again subdivided, this time into three groups based on the width of the head, for the reason that the width varies independently of the length, and for the reason that it is impossible to determine, from the knowledge of the length of a head, what its width may be. The new subdivisions, nine in number, are made up of narrow widths, medium widths, and broad widths. Each of these nine subdivisions numbers approximately 6,666, which is again divided into three groups, according to the length of the middle finger, thus making a total of twenty-seven subdivisions. A fourth subdivision is made on the basis of the length of the foot, which again subdivides each group obtained into three, each containing about 251 groups. Next come three subdivisions based in the length of the forearm, which reduces the preceding number to less than eighty-four. The variations of height divide each of these last lots into three of about twenty-eight each, which are evenly distributed, still on the same principle, into classes by means of the variations of the length of the little finger, and into classes according to the color of the eye. This last group, depending upon the color of the eye, is again arranged according to the increasing size of the ear. In this manner it is possible to arrange a collection of sixty thousand cards into groups of less than a dozen each.

"Assuming that the cards are thus classified, how are they used

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in identifying a criminal? The subject is first measured in the manner which we have already described. Turning to the card catalogue, the group of cards is first sought containing the division for a length of head corresponding to that of the criminal just measured, stopping at the subdivision of the width of his head, and afterward seeking for the subdivision of his middle finger, then that of his foot, and that of his forearm. By one elimination after another, a little group is reached which ought to contain the card sought for, if the criminal in question has ever been arrested before and measured. . . . . .

"It should not be supposed that the measurements of the criminal will conform exactly with the measurements on his identifying card. It is very rarely, indeed, that several measurements of the same subject, taken in rapid succession, will agree exactly. It is difficult, of course, to keep within the proper limits; but then in a system in which so fine a subdivision as the millimeter is used, it is but natural that slight variations occur. It is almost impossible to obtain twice over the same set of figures for the height, the trunk, and the width of the ear. A maximum of negligible error is therefore allowed. In the case of the height, this error is placed at 3 millimeters [1⅛ inch]; of the leng thand width of the head, at 2 millimeters [$\frac{1}{12}$ inch]; of the length of the left foot, at 6 millimeters [¼ inch]. . . . Such is the precision with which a criminal can be identified by means of his bodily proportions scientifically classified, that simply by means of the figures on the identification cards, and not by means of his name or his photograph, is it possible to ascertain whether or not he has ever before visited the measuring-room of the Police Department of the city of New York. . . . . .

"The descriptive marks which are noted upon the identification card serve simply as an aid to the figures. Exclusive reliance is not placed upon them by any means, because it is possible for blemishes in the skin to be removed, because the color of the hair changes with age, and that of the eye as well. The shape of the nose, the ear, and the inclination of the forehead and chin, however, are more trustworthy data. Dr. Bertillon has stated the rule of applying these distinctive marks as a means of identification as follows: All the marks indicated on an old card should be still recognized on the subject if this card really applies to him; but, on the other hand, it is not necessary that all marks on the present subject should appear without commission on the old card.

"The scientific accuracy of the Bertillon system of identifying criminals is now beyond question. What was previously guesswork in many cases has now given place to absolute certainty. A criminal over twenty-two years of age who has once been measured must be identified if he is ever arrested, convicted, and measured again."

THE HEIGHT OF THE TRUNK IS ASCERTAINED BY SEATING THE CRIMINAL WITH HIS BACK AGAINST THE UPRIGHT SCALE.

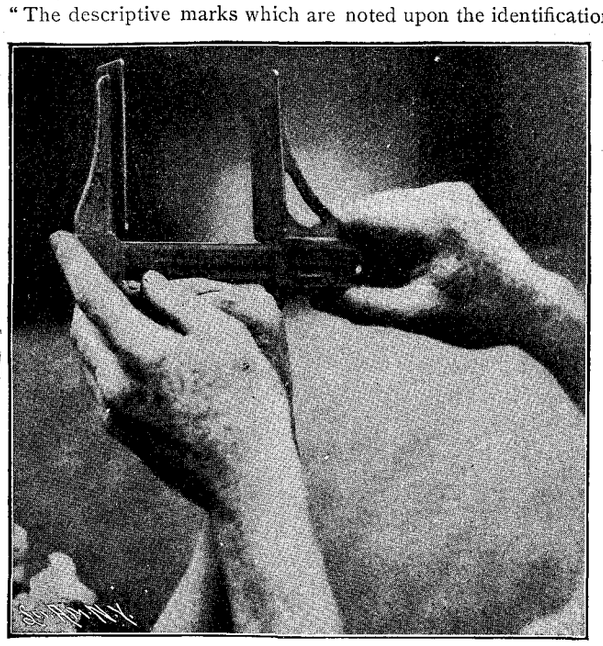
IN MEASURING THE LENGTH AND WIDTH OF THE HEAD, A CALIPER COMPASS IS EMPLOYED.

Courtesy of *The Scientific American* (New York).

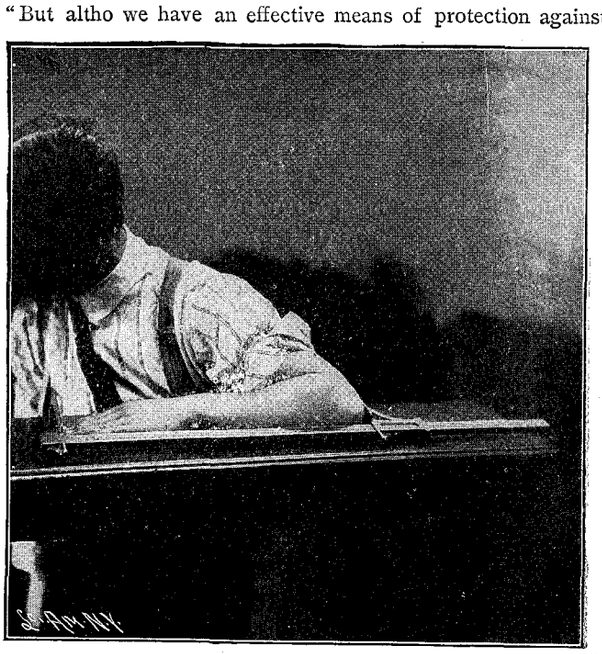
OIL-BOMBARDMENT TO CALM WAVES.

IT is no new idea to use the properties of a floating film of oil to reduce the size of ocean waves; but efforts are constantly made to improve the methods of applying the oil. One of the latest plans is to project it in shells fired from a cannon. A writer in *Cosmos*, abstracting an article in the *Bulletin des Ingénieurs Civils*, notes that the use of oil in calming waves, altho centuries old, has been greatly stimulated in recent years by the cheapness of mineral oil suitable for this purpose. He goes on to say:

"But altho we have an effective means of protection against



THE MIDDLE FINGER IS MEASURED BY A CALIPER RULE.



HOW THE LEFT FOREARM IS MEASURED.

BERTILLON SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFICATION OF CRIMINALS.

Courtesy of *The Scientific American* (New York).

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waves, it is not always easy to avail ourselves of it, and the problem of its application is not yet completely solved. In fact, it is relatively easy to protect a ship that is disabled or storm-driven by towing sacks full of oil to prevent the waves breaking over the stern; but it is much less easy to protect a ship in motion from waves that approach the bow.

"In this case it has been proposed to employ a kind of shell, full of oil, fired from a cannon in such manner that it will burst and scatter the oil over the waves. The difficult point is to make sure that the oil will be evenly distributed. Shells have been used, partly filled with explosive and fitted with a time-fuse or detonator; but they were only partly successful, and, besides, the juxtaposition of oil and an explosive mixture presents danger in case of a premature explosion, which is always a possibility. These inconvenient features have led to the employment of wooden, non-explosive shells, made in such manner that they will quickly break on striking the water. Generally the lower end is arranged to break, making a wide opening for the escape of the oil, and to this end it is made of impermeable cloth or even of paper covered with glue to prevent the absorption of the oil. Quite a feeble shock suffices to break the paper. The paper bottom is ordinarily protected by a metallic cover, which is removed at the moment of use.

"Another system, inferior to that just described, consists in closing the cylinder containing the oil with a soluble gelatinous paste that dissolves on contact with the water and lets out the oil; but the time necessary for this is very variable and this is the defect of the process. The shell is so ballasted that it floats high and so that the oil is distributed over the surface by the motion of the waves. That these devices may be used at night, they are furnished with a fuse which by burning indicates the place where the shell has fallen. It would seem that perfection in this matter has not yet been reached, if we are to judge from the number of patents that are continually taken out for devices of this kind."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE BODILY TEMPERATURE OF PLANTS.

THAT some plants, at the moment of flowering, give off heat that is plainly perceptible to the hand, and that plants generally, like animals, possess bodily or individual heat, altho in less degree, is asserted, on the strength of recent discoveries, by a writer in *Cosmos* (Paris). He says, after stating the elements of the problem:

"It is only of recent years that the phenomena of 'caloricity' in plants have been rigorously established. The experiments of Van Beck, Bergsma, and Dutrochet have established, effectively and incontestably, the existence of a source of heat in living plants. Every one knows, besides, that heat is developed in breweries when the grain to be used in making beer is caused to sprout.

"And when we consider the vegetable kingdom as a whole, we are astonished to see what extreme temperatures certain plants can resist. . . . From these facts certain naturalists have concluded that plants are endowed with the faculty of raising or lowering their temperature by the effect of their own growth and as a means of resisting the heat and cold of the surrounding atmosphere, for the most evident result of animal or vegetable heat is that it enables the living creature to resist external temperatures. And in fact does not internal heat seem evident in all trees, whose sap does not freeze in winter, when the lowering of the temperature solidifies all other liquids? . . . . . .

"*A priori*, all these phenomena seem to show the existence of natural heat in plants, and the theory of its production . . . attributes it to the formation of carbonic acid in the chemical actions that take place in the plant, especially at germination and flowering. Nevertheless the cause is other than this and is extremely simple. We must not forget that the roots of woody plants always penetrate the soil to a considerable depth, so that their tips are removed from atmospheric influences. The liquids that they absorb must thus be at a practically uniform temperature, which in winter will be higher than that of the air, and the liquids thus introduced into the trunk must constantly tend to heat it. This effect is aided by various causes. . . . . .

"Numerous facts support this theory. Farmers know well that trees and herbs with superficial roots suffer more from temperature-extremes than those with deep roots. . . . The remarkable freshness of coco-nut milk and of the juices of certain tropical fruits comes from the simple fact that these fruits are fed by sap pumped from the depths of the earth by deeply penetrating roots.

"In showing that the interior temperature of trees is intimately connected with that of the soil into which their roots penetrate, Schoepf, Maurice, Pictet, and Hermstaedt had made it at least questionable whether a vital heat existed in plants, when M. Dutrochet, investigating the question on his own account, proved, by a series of ingenious experiments made with the aid of an extremely sensitive thermoscopic apparatus, that plants, like animals, really possess the property of developing heat by the action of the vital phenomena of which they are the seat. . . . Altho evident, it is very slight in ordinary circumstances and never exceeds one-third of a degree centigrade; however, certain cold-blooded animals have not a higher degree of bodily warmth than this.

"M. Dutrochet recognized in some plants a sort of paroxysm, toward the middle of the day, in the development of heat, which increases gradually at first and then falls, at the same time as the atmospheric heat and light. It is chiefly at the ends of the young branches and during the period of full development that the existence of this vital heat and its daily variation become evident.

"In the great majority of plants their individual heat remains very small during their whole existence; but with some flowering is accompanied by a production of heat which, in the case of a *Bignonia radicans*, reached a half degree [centigrade]. But these belong to the Arum family, which show an extreme elevation of temperature."

In certain cases, we are told, the arums give off so much heat that at the moment when the flower opens it can be felt with the hand. One observer measured a temperature of 43° C. [109° F.] in one of these lilies, while that of the surrounding air was only 21° [70°]. This was, of course, exceptional. The writer concludes:

"To sum up, it is now perfectly proved that plants as well as animals have their own bodily temperature, which is especially evident at germination and flowering, and that altho stems, leaves, etc., produce only a slight heat, not recognizable by ordinary means, there are certain plants which, chiefly at the moment of flowering, under the influence of a kind of accidental and transitory paroxysm, give off a very large degree of it. Others, like the mushrooms, have a constant temperature varying only by one-tenth to one-half of a degree."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"AT the recent meeting of the British Association," says *The Medical Times*, "Dr. Adamkiewicz read a paper upon 'Ist der Krebs erblich?' (Is Cancer Hereditary?) Unfortunately the program had it 'erdlich.' So the London *Times* next day announced that the doctor had read a paper upon 'Is the Crab a Sea or Land Animal?'"

"A LONG-SOUGHT, but still not in sight, invention is that of a cotton-picking machine," says *The American Machinist*. "A ten-million-bale crop costs $100,000,000 merely to pick it, while the ideal machine should do the work for $10,000,000. The difficulty is not in the mechanical operation of the picking so much as in endowing the machine with perceptive and discriminating powers. The machine must be able to select the bolls as they are successively ripe and not pick indiscriminately. Some are asking now what electricity has to say about the job."

"Coal stored in great heaps deteriorates in quality as time goes on; this deterioration is slow oxidation, and oxidation slow or fast is always accompanied by the generation of heat," says *Railway and Locomotive Engineering*. "There is no way of preventing this action, but there is a way of avoiding serious results, and that is to provide means for rapidly carrying off the heat, and that is best accomplished by the free circulation of air through and around the pile. The peculiarity about the fire in the interior of a pile of coal is that it cokes a layer of coal all around the fire, and this coked layer will not readily let water through, so that drenching the pile from the outside and expecting the water to soak in and put out the fire is an expectation which is not likely to be realized. The way to put out a fire in the center of a coal pile is to push a sharp-pointed piece of perforated pipe into the burning mass, couple the piece of pipe to the shop-hose and turn on the water."

COST OF RARE ELEMENTS.—"Boron in powder made by the Moissan process in Germany is worth $142.80 per kilogram (2.2 pounds); germanium, fused by electrolysis, sells at $59.50 per gram; lanthanum, in bales, $9.04 per gram; tellurium, $106.10 and $107.10 a kilogram; uranium, $190.40 per kilogram, and zirconium, $95.20 per kilogram," says *The Engineering and Mining Journal*. "Most of the rare metals are used in the laboratory for experimental purposes, but a few, like iridium, quoted at $9.52 and $10.71 per ten grams in Germany; osmium, $17.14 per ten grams; magnesium, $3.81 and $7.62 per kilogram; manganese (commercial 94 and 97 per cent.), $2.75 per pound in New York; molybdenum, commercial, $4.05 and $6.96 per kilogram in Germany, and tungsten powder, 88 cents per pound in New York, find employment as an individual metal or as alloys for special manufactures. There is an increasing market, however, for the nitrates, especially cerium, $10 per pound, and thorium, $4.50 per pound, which are utilized in the manufacture of incandescent gaslight mantles. Radium and polonium, recent discoveries, have a purely speculative value."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

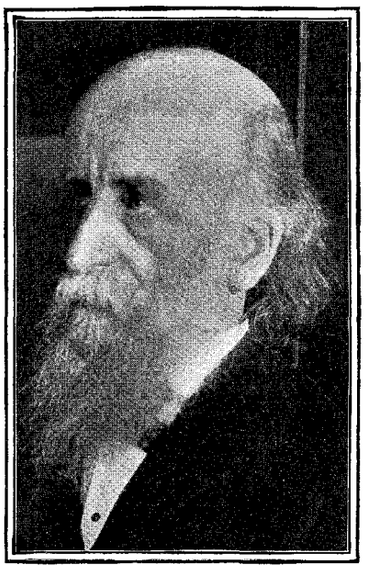
LYMAN ABBOTT'S NEW "HERESIES."

QUITE a commotion has been caused in the religious world by the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott's latest confession of faith, made during the course of a sermon before the students of Harvard University. As reported by the New York *Tribune*, Dr. Abbott said:

"I wonder if you students in Harvard will understand me when I say that I no longer believe in a great first cause? To-morrow the newspapers will get hold of this and brand me as a heretic. My God is a great and ever-present force, which is manifest in all the activities of man and all the workings of nature. I believe in a God who is in and through and of everything—not an absentee God, whom we have to reach through a Bible, or a priest, or some other outside aid, but a God who is close to us.

"Science, literature, and history tell us that there is one eternal energy, that the Bible no longer can be accepted as ultimate, that many of its laws were copied from other religions, that the Ten Commandments did not spring spontaneously from Moses, but were, like all laws, a gradual growth, and that man is a creature of evolution, not a creation. No thinking man will say there are many energies. The days of polytheism are past. There is only one energy. That energy has always been working. It is an intelligent energy. No scientist can deny it. It was working before Christ's time, even as it is now.

"Yet God has a personality. We recognize it as we recognize the personality of a Titian or an Angelo. Only God is always working, always creating, whereas their work is done. God stands near us. The mother of a deaf, dumb, and blind child gives her daughter one, two, three gifts without being recognized. Finally there breaks through the child's intelligence the fact that these gifts, so kind, so loving, spring from the same source. It feels the mother's hands and face, then throws its arms around her neck and kisses her. Even so we, ever in the presence of God, come to realize His proximity and love. God makes for good. Man's progress is a progress upward. Each day is better than the first."



LYMAN ABBOTT.

For this utterance, Dr. Abbott has been discussed in terms that range from bitterest condemnation to warmest commendation from one end of the country to the other. The Right Rev. Charles E. Cheney, Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church in Chicago, thinks that these words place Dr. Abbott "utterly beyond the pale of Christianity." The Rev. Charles N. Field, of St. Augustine's, Boston, observes: "Dr. Abbott is repeating things which many heretics have said before him." The Rev. Dr. Lewis Bates, father of the governor of Massachusetts, declares that Dr. Abbott is "simply going back to Hinduism." And the Rev. Dr. Wilbur F. Crafts, of Washington, comments:

"If I were to form a composite picture of the devil as an angel of light and of darkness I could easily imagine Lyman Abbott and Bishop Potter in the composite. While both men are clean and probably sincere, their ideas work more harm to the moral world than those of any two other men living. I have always found that when a man becomes loose on theology he becomes loose on ethics. Lyman Abbott, besides his attacks on the Bible, favors wine-drinking and an open saloon on Sunday. In this he does not differ from Bishop Potter."

On the other hand, more radical clergymen argue that Dr. Abbott has done a service to the cause of religious truth by frankly stating his views. The Rev. Dr. F. O. Hall, of New York, remarks that "Dr. Abbott has said to these young men in Harvard what we Universalists have been preaching ever since we broke away from the orthodox church"; while the Rev. Dr. Robert Collyer, the venerable Unitarian minister of New York, declares:

"Dr. Abbott's words cast a new light upon religion. It is splendid to hear such a broad-minded utterance. I am glad he had the courage to say it. What he said will have a greater influence in the religious thought of this day than could have been possible had these advanced views come from any lesser intellect. He recognizes what every broad mind of to-day is obliged to recognize—that is, the relations of science and religion. Mind you, he is not denying the existence of God, but he has taught that God is much greater than the people have even been accustomed to regard Him."

The New York *Evening Post* is of the opinion that "a theologian clamorous for denunciation . . . ought not to be gratified." It goes on to comment:

"His desire is like that morbid longing for martyrdom which wrought such evil in the early church, and which had to be rebuked and put down. It shows that his thought is more about the echo of the gun than of the flight of the bullet to its mark. The true theological reformer does not so strive nor cry, nor lift up his voice in the street. Besides, a pining to be branded as a heretic, if sincere, is a sheer anachronism to-day. When a conscientious clergyman recently confessed to his brethren that he held certain heretical views, there was an awkward pause, which was at last broken by a grave old gentleman rising to move that they burn Brother B—— at four o'clock. Some such jocose view is sure to be taken nowadays of too ostentatious a heretic. Instead of encountering stake and fagots, he is much more apt to be, as Thackeray complained that he was, 'dinner-eed to death.'"

The Episcopal Recorder (Philadelphia) expresses itself in these terms:

"For some years past we have tried our best to understand Dr. Abbott, and just when we have been persuading ourselves that we know where he is, we seek him and he can not be found. A writer of very pleasing English, and a framer of very plausible sentences, Dr. Abbott undoubtedly is; but when it comes to a presentation of some system of theology, we are treated to vagaries that may mean anything, and more frequently mean nothing. Dr. Abbott told his hearers on Sunday that he expects 'the newspapers will brand him as a heretic.' In this, we think, he will be disappointed. He is like the Wandering Jew, in that he finds no province of theology in which he can rest. He passes from one to the other, and stays in each just long enough to make up his mind to be up and moving. Just now he is moving through the province of an effete pantheism, and we fully expect him to pass out of this in due course and make for provinces yet unknown. There is, however, a serious side to this business, in that Dr. Abbott has got the ear of many thousands. The Athenians were not the only people who loved to hear and to tell some new thing. There are in our country thousands who seem ready for anything, from esoteric Buddhism on the one hand to Dowieism on the other. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that many will take Dr. Abbott's new 'confession' as a revelation of divine things. To such we can but repeat the exhortation: 'Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.'"

The New York *Independent* comments:

"Dr. Abbott is not a distinguished philosopher or theologian; he is a noble philanthropist, a fresh and suggestive helper in all good causes, a most acceptable teacher of ethics and religion; hardly a close thinker. He walks close to the perilous borders, but keeps his own footing on safe ground. He is very much of what the French call a *provocateur*, and loves to stir up the animals. He knew he would do it when he made the above utterance. He loves to be quick to see and bold to accept and

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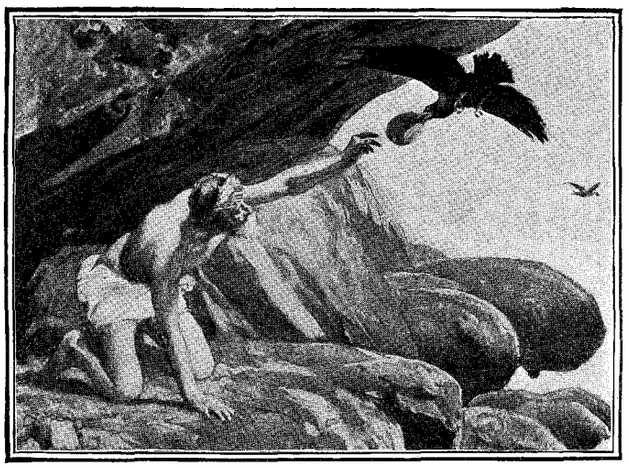

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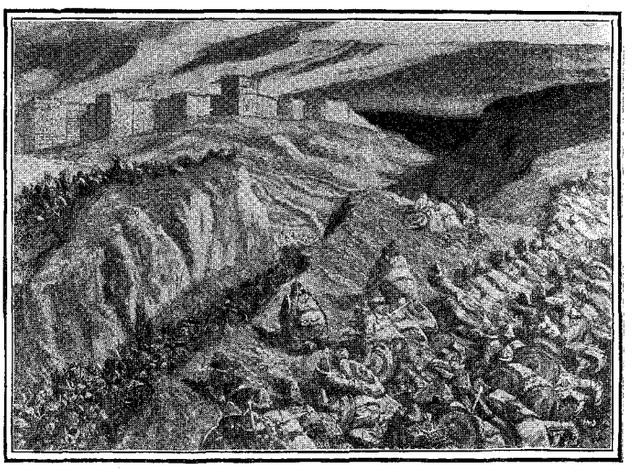
ELIJAH FED BY THE RAVENS.
(1 Kings xvii. 6.)



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AN OLD-TESTAMENT BATTLE SCENE.
(Judges xx. 36.)

propagate the newest thought of science or criticism; and he does it not of reckless purpose at all, but because he wants religious faith to keep in touch with current knowledge.

"But when he announces that he no longer believes in 'a great first cause,' he is not at all clear in his explanation of what he means. He tells us that 'God is energy, intelligent energy, working for good.' But in the name of all reason and understanding, what is that but 'a great first cause'? The word 'energy' is abstract; but when you call it 'intelligent' you have stepped out of the realm of the abstract into that of concrete personality. If the energy is 'intelligent,' it is conscious. If it is intelligently 'working for good,' it has personality of a moral character. If this 'intelligent energy' is 'a great and ever-present *force*, which manifests itself in *all the activities* of man and the working of nature,' it is what we call an omnipotent personality. . . . A great cause can work just as well through nature, by laws, as by a multitude of successive or simultaneous creative volitions. We care not how the energy works, so long as it is personal, intelligent, strong, and good. It is convenient to call it God; it is equally proper to call it a great first cause."

The New York *Freeman's Journal* (Rom. Cath.) says:

"Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was a Pantheist, left the ministry. In his time no Protestant sect would have tolerated such teachings as we have been commenting on. The Sage of Concord was too honest to be a make-believe Christian, and, therefore, unlike hundreds of Protestant clergymen of our times, he abandoned the pulpit.

"That professed believers in Pantheism should be permitted to exercise the ministry in Protestant churches is evidence of how far Protestantism has drifted away from its Christian moorings. . . . The Bible no longer holds the position it once occupied. It is now more or less discredited in all the Protestant sects. Disbelief in the Bible has been followed by the denial of the divinity of Christ. And now the Dr. Abbotts in the Protestant churches are at work trying to familiarize Protestants with Pantheistic teachings. Such are the gradations that mark the descent of Protestantism."

In an interview with a reporter of the Boston *Herald*, Dr. Abbott has made a brief reply to his critics. He points out that his "present position is not new," and says he stands now where he has always stood—"where all thinking men and women are tending at the present time." He adds: "The old idea was that God was over and above the world, related to it as a mechanic to his machine. To-day we have come to the more spiritual view of God as the indwelling spirit, who is in and of the entire universe." The Bible he characterizes as "the record of man's greatest aspiration and achievement in the religious life." Christ "is in history what the Bible is in literature—the supreme expression of the divine idea." "All talk of heresy," he concludes, "is but the echo of an age of darkness."

SOME OF THE TISSOT'S OLD-TESTAMENT PAINTINGS.

A SERIES of three hundred and seventy-five water-color paintings, illustrating Old-Testament scenes and stories, by James J. Tissot, the eminent French artist, has been placed on exhibition in Brooklyn and New York, and is to be shown, during the next two or three years, throughout the United States. In conception and execution these pictures resemble the New-Testament series recently purchased for $60,000 by the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and they represent the culminating effort of the artist's life. According to the published testimony of his friend and associate, Maurice de Brunoff:

"No one was better qualified than he to undertake this gigantic work. His vast knowledge of the Bible, the enormous amount of material accumulated in the course of producing 'The Life of Christ,' his frequent journeys through Palestine, Egypt, and other Oriental climes, his exceptional ability and the breadth of his talent rendered his enterprise at least possible, if not easy.

"He wished to give to the entire Bible a necessary artistic commentary, proceeding from his profound personal acquaintance with the sacred East, and he had the satisfaction of realizing this great ideal. The project fascinated him all the more because the realistic character, the dramatic and poetic scenes of the Old Testament enable those who study them to comprehend those of the Gospels more fully.

"Toward the close of his life, as tho he had a foreboding of his approaching dissolution, M. Tissot worked with feverish ardor, rising in the early morning and bending over his easel until sunset. He left his brush and pencil only to examine documents or to trace texts or the upbuilding of his great work."

Mr. Clifton Harby Levy, of New York, contributes an article on the Tissot pictures to the December issue of *The Biblical World* (Chicago). He says, in part:

"These paintings must prove of tremendous value to students of the Bible as living illustrations of the Old Testament, for the artist is a realist as well as a man of imagination. He presents the real background of the Old Testament, filling it up with actual types as gathered by him during years of study of the 'unchanging Orient.' It is a reconstruction of the life of the Old Testament, as complete as was possible, considering the distance at which the artist stood from the times he depicts. That distance is not so great for the Orient as it would be anywhere else in the world; for the sheik of to-day is much like the sheik of three or four thousand years ago; the deserts and mountains have not changed; even the tents of the twentieth century of the Christian era are similar to those of the twentieth century before it. Tissot found it necessary to study the Jew and the Arab at home in Palestine and in the desert, and he spared no pains to gather every detail of scenery, of types of character, and of architecture, that his pictures might be as nearly true as possible.

"The work of this artist is noticeable for its conscientiousness

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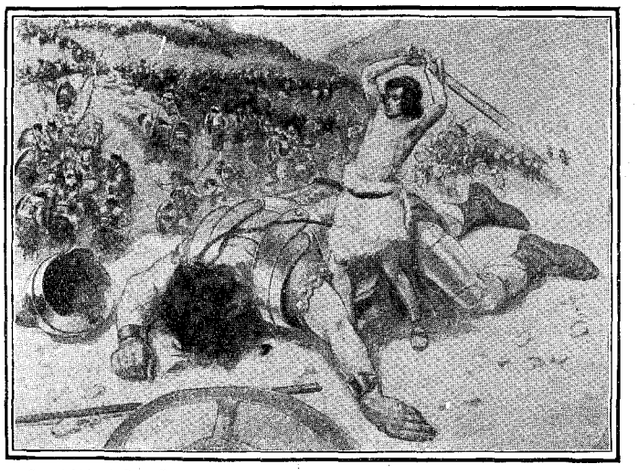
THE PHILISTINES VISIT DELILAH.
(Judges xvi. 5.)



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DAVID CUTS OFF THE HEAD OF GOLIATH.
(1 Samuel xvii. 51.)

TISSOT PICTURES.

as to detail, and tho some archeologists may raise a query here or there as to the design of a rug or the introduction of a cat, the general result can not be far from the truth."

"It is like meeting old friends," continues the same writer, "to view these pictures. They will send many beholders back to the Bible to refresh their memory of the characters and stories painted there." He concludes:

"Tissot follows the Bible with a faithfulness that is almost literal, yet he can not help reading between the lines, and sometimes the imagination of the painter suggests most acceptable interpretations. The ordinary reader is apt to think of Cain and Abel as almost of an age, on account of the closeness of the narrative in Genesis, yet Tissot's picture suggests that Cain was far older, and the observer is apt to be converted to his view. When Tissot paints the Jews in Egypt in a synagogue, he seems to be perpetrating an anachronism; yet that the Jews, or more properly Israelites, as they were then, had their places of worship, even tho they may not have been the counterpart of the later synagogues, there can be little doubt.

"These are cited as instances of the originality of the artist's method, the value and suggestiveness of which are not to be underrated.

"Viewed as a whole, the pictures must be considered dignified and worthy of the subjects covered by them, and the influence that will be exerted through the exhibition of the originals and their reproduction in book form must be far-reaching."

THE CHRISTIAN ANSWER TO PESSIMISM.

IN a booklet on "The Goodness of God," by George T. Knight, Professor of Theology in Tufts College Divinity School, the philosophical and theological arguments for pessimism are discussed with the result, on the author's part, of an assertion of a belief in the goodness of God as the only explanation of all the facts in nature and the supernatural. He declares that after having examined the course of nature and taken account of all kinds of evil, he has "found the works of God are altogether benevolent." Secondly, after having considered the attributes of God as revealed to His children, he has "found in them no sign of ill nor defeat of goodness." All things, he declares, are at least consistent with the theory of goodness, and many things are consistent with no other theory, but require and enforce the most optimistic and joyful faith." He concedes, however, that others exist who, having the same evidence, yet draw a different conclusion. Concerning these he says:

"If the evidence is the same, the different conclusion must arise from mental constitution, as colored glass gives a tinge to all the things seen. It was some pigment in Schopenhauer's blood that tinged the world for him. And there is, I think, something the same in the blood of our good friends, the professional reformers who often tell us that society is rotten to the core, the world is rapidly going to the dogs, and the best that any of us can do is to hold it back a little, and await the bitter end which is sure to come ere long.

"Is it not the same with the theologians, the prophets of evil generally, and with the ordinary Christian, embittered with toils and cares, and hard pressed with evils which seem about to destroy him and his beloved? To him the world has seemed to be a fleeting show for man's delusion given—it is the kingdom of the devil and not of God. To him there is either no God at all or a weak one who can not complete what He improvidently began to build. To men of that disposition I would say it is not in the facts, not in good reason, but in some unfortunate element of your constitution that you see nature as Schopenhauer sees it, and see man as Nordau and Nietzsche see him, and interpret the very words of Jesus as containing dire forebodings of endless wrath. While this taint remains in your blood you will continue to think the optimistic temper to be frivolous and its reasoning shallow. You will continue to suspect and contend against your own better instincts, which, because they are fundamentally Christian, are often moving you to take a brighter view of the world and of God. When in response to those instincts you pray that all men may know God from the least unto the greatest, you will yet confess with sorrow that it can not be. There is in you this contest between your heart's desire and your knowledge (as it seems to you) based on the traditional understanding of certain Scripture texts. But St. Paul teaches that the greatest thing is love. And in modern days Browning also shows you a more excellent way. He says to the man who finds knowledge and love to be in conflict:

> Wholly distrust thy knowledge then, and trust,
> As wholly, love allied to ignorance.
> There lies thy truth and safety.

"According to the same principle, the leaders of the 'new anthropology,' or study of man, have shown us that we ought sometimes to be wilfully optimistic, to purposely contend against the suggestion of evil, and this may be especially wise in case those suggestions contain anything derogatory to the divine perfections. Such is the significance of words written by Professor James, to the effect that in case our faculties of judgment can not decide some question of vital interest, we do well to allow our better emotions to tip the scale and decide for us in behalf of the optimistic conclusion. As a general truth, the value we give to any vital course of reasoning depends largely on temperament. We do as a matter of fact reason less by thinking than by feeling; and on the whole perhaps we ought to do so, yet not to the exclusion of thinking. Feeling or passion must often decide the reason, and if the passion be unmixed holy and righteous, its decision will be true and will stand the severest tests of logic."

The writer concludes with the remark that "to those who can receive it, psychology seems to declare that pessimism is one of the lingering effects of moral disease not yet cast off or outgrown, but against which some of us must yet contend for a while."

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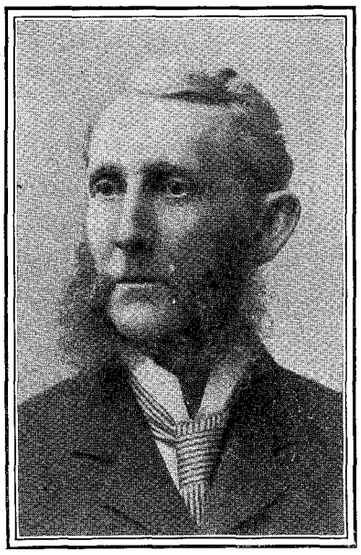
THE AMERICAN BIBLE LEAGUE.

THE American Bible League came into existence in April, 1903, as the result of a religious conference held in New York for the purpose of considering the imperiled condition of the Bible as a religious authority, in view of the rising tide of "rationalism." Its avowed object is to uphold the "old view" of the Bible as an inspired document, and to challenge the claims of "radical criticism." At the time of its first public convention in the Marble Collegiate Church, New York, in May, 1904 (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, May 14 and June 4), the League was severely criticized on the ground that it did not represent a healthy attitude toward the Bible. Its second convention, held in the Park Street Church, Boston, December 6–8, is more favorably received by the religious press. Says *The Christian Work and Evangelist* (New York):

"The widespread interest aroused in the proceedings of the convention was shown by the large and enthusiastic audiences that filled the great church through the seven sessions, from the opening to the close. The speakers were not of the order given to forgetting the truth and devoting themselves to personalities. Indeed, the irenic spirit was a marked feature of all the proceedings. At the end of the second day a secular reporter wrote to a metropolitan daily that 'thus far not a word has been spoken in the convention which can be construed as personal or controversial in an objectionable sense. The speakers have stated their views frankly and forcibly, but they have not resorted to personalities. In this respect they have disappointed their critics who prematurely took for granted that the speakers would show rancor and resentment toward those who differed from them. The tone of the convention is highly spiritual and profitable.' So on to the end it was felt that whatever else the League may have accomplished it had given a spiritual uplift to not a few of the good Christian people of Boston."

The general theme for discussion was "Biblical Criticism and What is Involved in It." The presiding officer of the convention, Mr. William Phillips Hall, is a New York business man, and among those who read papers may be mentioned Prof. Luther T. Townsend, formerly of Boston University; the Rev. Dr David J. Burrell, of New York; the Rev. Dr. P. S. Henson, of Tremont Temple, Boston; Prof. Robert D. Wilson, of Princeton Theological Seminary; and Rabbi Solomon Schechter, of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Prof. A. H. Sayce, of Oxford University, and Prof. H. V. Hilprecht, of the University of Pennsylvania, sent letters declaring their sympathy with the aims of the convention.



THE REV. DANIEL S. GREGORY, D.D., LL.D., Secretary of the American Bible League.

Two of the most significant addresses delivered were those of the Rev. Dr. Daniel S. Gregory, the general secretary of the League, on "The True Knowledge of the Bible and the League's Method of Promoting It," and of Prof. G. Frederick Wright, editor of *The Bibliotheca Sacra*, on "Inductive Principles in Biblical Knowledge." The former said, in part:

"The problem of problems is how to get a true knowledge of this Bible, and how to give that knowledge to mankind. The American Bible League proposes to promote such knowledge of the Bible by leading men to study that Word of God just as they study the world of God. God's world is one great complete whole—a complete system of thought. So God's Word is a great and complete whole, a complete system of religious and redemptive thought. The biblical student should carry with him to the investigation of it the scientific assumption that 'Every part of this Word is constructed on principles that will yield clear meaning to his search for unity, law, and order.' The League does not stand for controversy except incidentally, but for this better, natural, and scientific Bible study—the study of God's Word as we study God's world."

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MR. WILLIAM PHILLIPS HALL, President of the American Bible League.

Professor Wright said:

"The first truth in this system is the existence of a God who can be known. We are no more in doubt of God's existence than we are of our own. Nor can all subtleties of metaphysics dispossess us of the belief that God is a person like ourselves. Secondly, we know that there is a moral law to which all men are subject. Third, we know as well as we know anything that we ourselves and all men have broken this law and are far from living up to its requirements. Fourth, we know as well as we know any historical fact that the highest, greatest, and most hopeful remedial agency in the world is the gospel of Christ. Fifth, we know as well as any historical fact can be known that the moving truths of Christianity are all incorporated in the Bible."

Commenting on the work of the convention, as a whole, the Boston *Watchman* (Baptist) affirms its conviction that the American Bible League is performing "a very necessary and valuable service" in combating the extreme conclusions of the higher criticism. *Zion's Herald* (Boston, Meth. Episc.) takes a similar view:

"On the whole we are very glad this convention was held in Boston. The prejudice against the League has disappeared under these able and fearless discussions. The American Bible League is to some a needed protest against destructive Bible criticism, against superficial thinking which leaps to the conclusion that because honest and searching Bible study has served to change the viewpoint on some non-essentials, therefore the whole Bible fabric is shattered. In so far as it has stood for reasonable views of the inspiration of the Scriptures, for the deity of Jesus Christ, and for all essentials of the Christian faith, we rejoice in its coming. We only wish that these good men would show more clearly that there are several wings of so-called higher critics; and that the great multitude of disciples of our common Lord, while appreciating gratefully the results of the devout school, have no sympathy whatever with the revolutionary and destructive higher critic. Christendom is under unspeakable obligation to the Bible critic, higher or lower, who has helped to a better apprehension of the Scriptures, and to mark the distinction more clearly between that which is incidental and that which is fundamental."

APROPOS of our recent article on the "individual communion-cup" agitation in Germany (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, November 12), Dr. Howard S. Andrews, of Philadelphia, a gentleman who has taken a leading part in a similar movement in this country, writes us as follows: "(1) There are approximately 2,200 churches in the United States now using individual communion-cups. (2) About 70 per cent. are Baptist, Congregational, and Presbyterian. (3) The Methodist Episcopal, Reform, Lutheran, and Christian (Disciples) follow in about equal proportion. (4) There are a few Protestant Episcopal, Universalist, Swedenborgian, and other scattered denominations using them. (5) There are twice as many as in 1901, when I last gleaned statistics in a broad way for a State sanitary journal. (6) By far the largest proportion of churches are in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and the middle Western States; some are in Canada, Australia, England, New Zealand, Mexico, Japan, Hawaii, etc."

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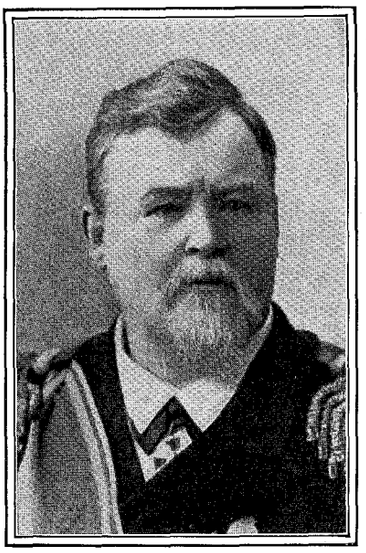
FOREIGN COMMENT.

KUROPATKIN'S ARMY AND OYAMA'S ARMY UNDERGROUND.

TWO underground cities, each with a population exceeding 200,000, have sprung into existence within a day's walk of the city of Mukden, the conditions under which the phenomenon took place being of intense interest to the military experts who explain the war for the benefit of newspaper readers in the Old World. One of these underground cities is Japanese, the other is Russian. Kuropatkin's army and Oyama's army, in short, have gone into winter quarters. The thermometer registers ten degrees below zero (Fahrenheit), blizzards are raging with more or less regularity, and any human being who spent a night in a tent would probably be found frozen in the morning.

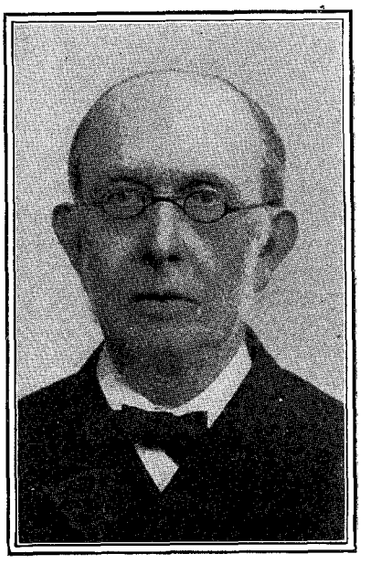
The belligerents are living in trenches, according to the Paris *Figaro*. As described, the subterranean dwellings seem to be the counterparts of those "dug outs" which figure so conspicuously in the pioneer history of Nebraska. A hole, some ten feet deep and some nine feet wide, is first made in the soil. A series of steps leads from the surface, the hole itself being covered over with a sort of trap-door, which can be left open when the sun is shining. The furniture comprises a rude oven and hearth, a mass of straw, and a cooking utensil or two. Ventilation is secured by means of an earthen chimney. The product which goes by the name of coal in Manchuria is extracted from neighboring mines and is said to afford sufficient warmth. The surface of the earth above these underground cities is said to afford little indication of the immense populations beneath. The men are reported to be tolerably comfortable, altho English dailies represent Kuropatkin's men as shoeless and ragged, hungry and dirty. French dailies, on the other hand, aver that Oyama's troops are rendered inefficient by the severity of the weather. But this can not be the case, if the London *Times* be correct in stating that the Japanese have gained control of the local coal-fields.



REAR ADMIRAL FOLKERSHAM,
Commanding one division of Rozhdestvensky's squadron.

The statistics in the case are, as usual, irreconcilable. Kuropatkin's total reenforcements up to the last day of this month could by no combination of fortuitous events exceed 72,000 men, according to the figures of the London *Standard*, even if the Russian commander be credited with every unit that has reached him since his memorable advance of some weeks ago. The Paris *Figaro* declares that Kuropatkin must have received more than this number of fresh troops already. The Russian commander is represented as very vigilant. He tours the country in an automobile, directs the organization of the army of Gripenberg—who, according to one account, reached Mukden some days ago—and has made friends with Linievitch, who has come over from Vladivostok to take up his command. When Kaulbars's army has been organized there will ensue a series of engagements which, according to the military expert of the *Figaro*, would reduce the affairs at Liao-Yang to the level of a disorderly mass meeting of the unemployed. London dailies depict a very much agitated Kuropatkin, spending sleepless nights in dread of a sudden assumption of the offensive by Oyama.

If we turn to the military experts of German and Austrian organs, in the hope of deriving definite ideas of what may happen, the safe conclusion would apparently be that the burrowing underground points to a postponement of a genuine battle—affairs of outposts not coming under this classification—until the winter is well over. This is the prediction of the military expert of the *Neue Freie Presse* (Vienna). But the French military organ, *Armée et Marine* (Paris), deems a winter campaign quite possible. The military expert of the Paris *Figaro* even goes the length of predicting a "fierce general engagement" long before the coming of spring:



M. POBIEDONOSTSEFF,
A Paris newspaper says he attributes Port Arthur's long resistance to the Virgin's intercession.

"All rumor is to the effect that there will be a complete suspension of hostilities throughout the winter. Only with the coming spring, it is declared, will the war be resumed. The return to Europe of some of the officers assigned to follow the maneuvers of Kuropatkin's army afford the basis of this contention.

"We do not know for what cause and in what circumstances certain foreign military attachés were recalled. What we know is that the members of the French mission have been ordered to remain in Manchuria, with the exception of General Silvestre, who alone is to return to Paris for a brief period.

"In any case, it does not seem to us that we have here a fact sufficient to inspire credence in a suspension of operations for four or five months.

"We are personally convinced that the winter will not pass without a new series of terrible shocks being witnessed. Indeed, considerations of a military nature, rather than inclemency of the weather, have led to the present interval of quiet.

"The struggle on the Shaho was a perfect instance of an indecisive battle. For six days the two adversaries fought each other with unheard-of intensity. Neither the one nor the other gained an inch of ground [the Japanese gained fifteen miles according to English experts]. Never before have two opposing armies maintained so exact a balance. To begin the struggle anew before the general situation had been modified would lead only to a fresh useless massacre.

"The two adversaries have determined to attempt nothing before they have received decided reenforcements. Kuropatkin will wait, therefore, before resuming the offensive, until a large part of the corps recently mobilized in Europe has arrived at Mukden. As for the Japanese, their operations are intimately related to the fate of Port Arthur. The only reserve that is in a position to be sent to the army of Manchuria is, in fact, made up of the 80,000 men of the besieging force. Hence, it is easy to understand that Oyama will remain passive until the fall of the fortress."

By way of summary of the whole outlook, the London *Mail* tells us:

"Unless Russia could obtain command of the sea, it has from the first been seen by all impartial observers that she could not hope for final and complete victory in the war. Japan is now free to attack or decline to attack, as she pleases."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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BRITISH AID TO RUSSIA.

THE supply of Welsh coal upon an enormous scale to the Baltic fleet, the permission accorded Russian destroyers by the Egyptian Government to ship supplies at Port Said, the negligence of the London admiralty in allowing the escape of a destroyer from the Thames to a Russian port, and the employment of British colliers for his fleet by Admiral Rozhdestvensky have been commented upon by a few French and German papers as singular

A PROFIT WITHOUT HONOR.

Old King Coal
Was a sordid old soul,
And a sordid old soul was he:
He sold to the Russ
And he didn't care a cuss—
And the Baltic fleet crossed the sea.

—*Punch* (London).

performances on the part of an ally of Japan. This criticism seems only too just to some London organs. It is all "most unseasonable," thinks the London *Standard*, while the London *Times*, in great indignation, says "it looks as if some other departments needed overhauling besides the War Office and the Home Office." *The St. James's Gazette* (London) is dumfounded by the fact that a torpedo-boat, built on the Thames by an English firm, should actually be permitted by the London authorities to get across the North Sea to be delivered to Russia for use against Great Britain's ally. It compares the case with that of the *Alabama* during the American civil war:

"It is inevitable that the mind should be carried back to the well-known story of the *Alabama*, the dangerous tension which the adjudication of this leading case by an international tribunal produced, and the heavy damages, amounting to over three millions [$15,000,000] in which we were mulcted by the court. The cases are similar and dissimilar. When the *Alabama* was under construction, the obligations of neutrality as touching the sale of vessels and arms from a neutral port to belligerents were far less clearly understood. The case of the *Alabama* was a test case, and a precedent was then established. That of the *Caroline* thus assumes, theoretically, an even more serious aspect. Apart from this, there is a striking similarity between the two stories. The United States Minister warned the British authorities that a Confederate war-ship was being fitted out at Birkenhead. At first the crown lawyers were inclined to treat the evidence as insufficient for detention. When they came to a contrary view it was too late. 'No. 290' was gone. With regard to the *Caroline* our authorities received a warning as to the suspicious nature of the transaction. There can on this occasion have been no doubt as to the obligation of benevolent neutrality, nor, it might be supposed, as to the certainty that prevention was better than cure."

The fact that British merchants are selling coal to Russia is somewhat scandalizing to the London *Standard*, but the Manchester *Guardian* comes to the defense of the coal dealers and says "the common sense of the country has rejected the argument" that "British coal owners ought not to be exporting coal for the use of the Baltic fleet because there is a conditional alliance between ourselves and Japan." To the Manchester organ it seems clear that "an alliance which is not at present in operation can not possibly affect the rights and wrongs of what English traders do now." It would, nevertheless, appear from utterances in continental European organs here and there that Great Britain is actually guilty of a violation of her neutrality in favor of Russia in permitting the coaling of the Baltic fleet through the medium of the Welsh. The eminent authority on international law, Prof. Ernest Nys, writes in the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels):

"When a belligerent nation has neither ports nor coaling-stations along the route followed by its squadrons, may its war-ships supply themselves with combustible material at the ports and coaling-stations of neutral Powers? In principle, the answer must be in the negative. Every nation has the right to take part in a war or else to observe neutrality with regard to it. It decides for itself in virtue of its freedom of action. But if it decides to be neutral, it is bound by the obligations which international law imposes upon neutrals. It is not permitted to give to one of the adversaries such assistance as will augment that adversary's military strength and which will thus give it advantage over the other. One of the results is that a neutral nation is not at liberty to furnish aid to a fleet or a war-ship of either adversary. However, to this rule, imposing abstention, there is one exception. That is the case of distress. In such a case, the neutral—may receive the fleet or the ship in its port. It may afford asylum, a temporary shelter. But by a case of distress is meant a storm, a fatality, a defeat."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE POLICEMAN OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

OLD World naval experts are reported to have convinced themselves that within a comparatively few years the United States will possess a fleet of war-ships more powerful than that of any nation with the single exception of Great Britain. "Within ten years," declares the London *Outlook*, "the United States navy will be second in strength to ours alone." "Before Mr. Roosevelt finally relinquishes the scepter of power in 1909," writes A. Maurice Low in *The National Review* (London), "the United States will have a navy second only to that of Great Britain, and it is not improbable that it will be its equal if not its superior." It would be easy to quote French and German daily newspapers to the same effect.

The declarations contained in Mr. Roosevelt's recent message to Congress afford the basis of all these predictions. Mr. Roosevelt, thinks the *Journal des Débats* (Paris), has accepted the "logical outcome" of the Monroe Doctrine, which makes his country "the policeman of the Western hemisphere." That is, as the *Gaulois* adds, that the American republic of the north will make itself responsible for "the good behavior" of the many republics to the south. The line of reasoning here is elaborated with most detail by the London *Statist*:

"President Roosevelt asks Congress to push forward the work of establishing a great United States navy. He bases his recommendation, in the first place, upon the well-known fact that the United States is pledged to enforce the Monroe Doctrine. And he observes, very truly, that it is as disgraceful to a nation as to an individual to make great claims in strong language and then to withdraw from them. In private life a man is able to secure his rights by application to the courts of law. But there is no great court which has jurisdiction over sovereign states. Therefore in international questions a state can safeguard its rights only by possessing the adequate force. In the case of the United States the striking arm is the navy. And, therefore, the President urges that the United States should have a navy powerful enough to enable it to enforce the Monroe Doctrine. The President sees that

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it is a necessary corollary of the Monroe Doctrine that the United States should not only protect the Central and South American Republics, but should also see that they do justice to foreign countries. Sooner or later it would be impossible to hold the Monroe Doctrine without engaging in a great war if the United States prevented all foreign Powers from compelling an erring South American republic, say, to do them justice. Therefore the President says that a strong navy is needed, not only to enforce the Monroe Doctrine, but to carry out its corollary, the exaction of justice from the protected States. This, of course, is not a new expression of opinion on the part of President Roosevelt. But it is the first time it has been incorporated in a great state paper, and therefore it is likely to make a strong impression upon the Central and South American states. At home, indeed, many are already objecting, and it is even said that the recommendation has played a part in bringing about the flurry on the Stock Exchange this week. But the American people are just enough to see that if they protect all Central and South American states, they are bound to compel those states to do justice to foreigners. Therefore the objection will not carry much force."

The growth of the United States naval power seems to the *Kölnische Zeitung*, an organ directly inspired by the Berlin Foreign Office, to be an impending factor of great importance in the development of world politics. Mr. Roosevelt will so influence the naval policy of the United States, surmises the *National Zeitung* (Berlin), supposed to be "well informed" in the official sense, that he will make his country supreme on the sea. The outlook is not satisfactory to the Leipsic *Grenzboten*, the organ of that section of German opinion which desires to strengthen Emperor William's fleets. It tells us that the United States is resolved to expand in the direction of Central America, and that Germany must increase her South American squadron without loss of time. But the most searching analyses of American ambition on the water are those of the *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin). The Jingoes, it declares, are in possession of the Washington Government, and they will have their own way for a long time to come. "Europe," sums up a writer in the pages of the last-named daily, "should look out."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE PHILIPPINE BULWARK AGAINST JAPAN.

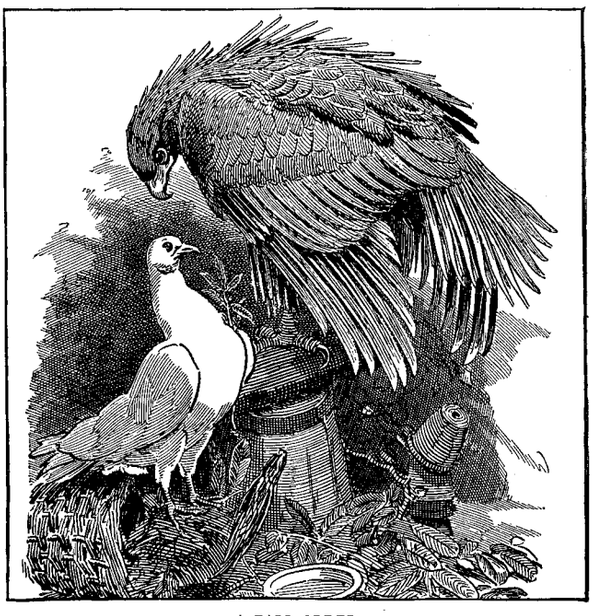
THE presence of the United States as the supreme Power in the Philippines is becoming more and more welcome to the French press as a bulwark against what is suspected to be the ambition of the Japanese to make themselves masters in the Far East. The Paris *Temps* and the Paris *Figaro* have at different times recently hinted that Japan's victories endanger the security of the Indian empire of France. That empire, according to Paris dailies, must in time develop upon a scale only less ambitious than the Indian empire of Great Britain. But all may be lost or at least imperiled, thinks the *Figaro*, if "an aggressive Japan" were to lay Russia prostrate and preach the gospel of "Asia for the Asiatics." But as long as the United States retains the Philippines this danger will not be pressing. The theme is dealt with by M. René Pinon in a lengthy study of America in the Philippines, contributed to the *Revue des Deux Mondes* (Paris). He thus sums up:

"To estimate the importance of the American work in the Philippines it is necessary not to consider the archipelago without the ocean that surrounds it and without the yellow world of which it forms a part. Above all, whatever be the appearances to the contrary, the Philippines are an imperial possession, a way-station of the United States on the road to domination of the Pacific, a military and commercial position in proximity to the Chinese mass. And, after all, for us Frenchmen and for us Europeans, the future of the Philippine people is not what preoccupies us. It is important to us, on the contrary, that in the face of growing Japan, the American Power should rise formidably to maintain in the waters of the Far East the equilibrium necessary for the security of European possessions and interests. Established in the Philippines, the Americans need a strong navy and a disciplined army. If, discouraged by the difficulties of their enterprise, they were to abandon it, the archipelago would not be long in passing under the domination, or at least under the influence, of Japan. This is one of the reasons which make us sincerely wish the success of the Americans in the great work of civilization which they have undertaken."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE PRACTISE OF TRADUCING GERMANY.

COUNT VON BÜLOW has deemed it advisable to speak plainly in the Reichstag regarding what, he alleges, is the growing practise of traducing Germany. The growth of the German navy and the aims and methods of Berlin diplomacy are interpreted, according to him, in a spirit so sinister as to inspire distrust among some of the Powers. With this as a sort of text, he enlarged with candor.

To begin with, averred the imperial chancellor, there is nothing aggressive in Germany's naval policy. The object of the fleet is defensive merely. Every great Power is striving to increase its navy, the consequence being that no one Power can now claim absolute mastery of the sea. There is to be henceforth no mistress of the seas. What would Germany or any other Power gain by overthrowing a rival upon the sea? The commercial position of the defeated Power would be destroyed, but the commerce of the victor would, meanwhile, have been absorbed by neutrals. In short, the suspicion of Germany, which to Count von Bülow seems too prevalent, rests upon misconception.



A TALL ORDER.

GERMAN EAGLE (to Dove of Peace): "Teach me how to coo!"

["The German Empire will continue to pursue the policy of peace which has commended itself for more than thirty years. To this end a strong and efficient army, ready for instant action, is now as much as ever necessary."—*Memorandum attached to the new German Army Bill. Vide "Times," November 29.*]

—*Punch* (London).

This is not quite the attitude of the German press. Organs like the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, the *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin), and the *Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung* agree that the practise of traducing Germany is part of an elaborate scheme to bring about her isolation. The Powers, especially England, see with dread the rise of Germany as a great commercial Power. Germany is held responsible for the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war, her seizure of Kiao-chou, in China, being interpreted in England as the direct cause of the struggle. The Russian mind is systematically poisoned, most German dailies aver, by insinuations that Berlin spreads false reports regarding the perils besetting the Baltic fleet. In Washington, according to the same authorities, Berlin's action

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is also misrepresented. If we are to accept the thesis of Berlin's semi-official press, Washington is just now the center of an elaborate anti-German intrigue, the details of which are not, however, made plain.

The Socialist press of Germany insists that the imperial chancellor has only himself to blame if Berlin diplomacy is distrusted. "German world politics," remarks the *Vorwärts* (Berlin), "is bankrupt." It believes Germany to be isolated. So does the *Neue Zeit* (Stuttgart), the official Socialist organ. It denounces Count von Bülow as "the tool of an ambitious world policy," the failure of which is "too evident." But the *Preussische Jahrbücher* (Berlin), in touch with the official world, explains that "jealousy of the growing power of Germany has for a long time found expression in misrepresentation of German acts and aims."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A VIGOROUS AMERICAN POLICY IN SANTO DOMINGO.

THE large and beautiful island between Cuba and Porto Rico, upon the soil of which two negro republics now work out their vexed destinies, is once more the theme of European homilies upon the Monroe Doctrine. Mr. John Hay, it is understood abroad, will take Santo Domingo more particularly in hand. It is "an open secret," thinks the Berlin *Kreuz Zeitung*, that the United States "covets" Samana Bay as the site for a coaling-station. It has been necessary, adds this organ, for Germany to land marines for the maintenance of order. Indeed, a German cruiser and a German gunboat have distinctly lowered American prestige in the West Indies, according to the London *Times*, by playing a conspicuous part in local revolutions not only in Santo Domingo but in Haiti, the other republic on the island to which Columbus gave the name of Hispaniola. The English daily has recently printed an elaborate study of conditions there from which we quote:

"With the prospect of the early construction of the Panama Canal the West Indian Islands are assuming an interest and importance they have not held since the period when the decisive battles of Europe were fought in their seas. The most important of them all, on account of its geographical position, is the island occupied by the republics of Haiti and Santo Domingo. A reference to the map will show that it lies directly in the path of ocean communication from Europe and Eastern America to the Isthmus of Panama, and borders the two sea-channels most favorable for outward and homeward bound vessels. When the canal is thrown open to navigation the great stream of commercial traffic between the Atlantic and Pacific will flow past its shores. It is not surprising, therefore, in view of its supreme strategic value in relation to the defense and control of the canal, that the question of its political future should be exercising the minds of American statesmen and the American people. They are, not unnaturally, asking themselves whether it can be allowed to remain, as at present, subject to misgovernment and periodic revolution and a menace to international amity, or whether it should be treated like Cuba and placed under civilized guardianship and restraint. What hope is there that it will justify a policy of non-interference under the new conditions which will soon force it into living contact with the most progressive nations of the world?"

Mr. Hay's policy, as Europe understands it, is to have the United States "take charge of the republic of Santo Domingo," nothing being said just yet on the subject of Haiti. Yet the Manchester *Guardian* hears that "the scheme is by no means certain of strong public approval" in the United States, and "it may be that the President and his advisers will be forced to withdraw from embarking on the venture because of a cry of Jingoism." The *Hamburger Nachrichten* has for some time been calling attention to the unsatisfactory state of affairs on the island, averring that German interests have suffered as a result.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

RECONCILIATION OF VATICAN AND QUIRINAL.

FOR the first time since the origin of the long and sullen discord between Vatican and Quirinal, Roman Catholics have openly borne a conspicuous part in an Italian national election with something resembling a display of approval by ecclesiastical authorities of the highest position. Now that all the votes have been counted and the Prime Minister, Signor Giolitti, is seen to have come off in triumphant style, the result is claimed in Italian clerical organs as a victory for the "forces of order" supported in many constituencies by church influence. "But," declares the Paris *Figaro*, "Pius X. has taken no step and made no declaration regarding the maintenance or the withdrawal of the prohibition formulated by Pius IX. and confirmed on various occasions by Leo XIII." This refers to the "non expedit," as the prohibition referred to is officially designated. The French daily adds:

"The Pope simply let matters take their course and Italian Catholics understood that they had the tacit acquiescence of the Pope. They went to the voting-booths and where there were no clerical candidates they voted for monarchists and for members of moderate parties. Signor Giolitti thus owes his success largely to Pius X. and to the Vatican prelates who gave the word.

"At Rome the parish priests took a direct part in the elections. Their campaign was particularly disastrous to the socialists. The same thing may be said of all parts of Italy. This first attempt is the prelude to full participation by Catholics in the parliamentary elections."

Vatican and Quirinal, adds this authority, "understand each other" and "a conciliation will take place of itself without the negotiations which precede a special compact between two parties." This statement is thought to be confirmed by an article in the Jesuit organ of the Vatican, the *Civiltà Cattolica* (Rome), which notes the important part played by members of the Roman Catholic Church in the Italian elections recently held. The circumstances were satisfactory to the ecclesiastical authorities, it says, because the non expedit is a prohibition to which exceptions may be allowed. Italian Roman Catholics are further bidden by the Jesuit organ to prepare themselves for political action along the lines laid down for the clerical party in Germany. It hints at the possibility that the Pope may in due time give an express or tacit permission of a general or partial nature that would amount to practical withdrawal of the non expedit. This article has created a sensation, and the Paris *Temps* asks if the Jesuit organ can be reflecting the ideas of the Vatican on this subject.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POINTS OF VIEW.

A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION.—"Were the present war between the United States and Japan," inquires a writer in London *Truth*, "and had the former collapsed as has Russia, would the English be inconsolable?"

NO END YET.—"It is not without sadness that we see this war prolonged," says the *Revue des Deux Mondes* (Paris), "and we understand those who speak prematurely of a mediation of the Powers, without, however, sharing their hopes or, rather, their illusions."

MONROE DOCTRINE AND PEACE CONGRESS.—"President Roosevelt has evolved the idea of assembling a second conference of The Hague, which shall make specific the questions dealt with by the first and which shall organize a periodical congress of peace," says the *Correspondant* (Paris). "Good. But to fulfil his intentions and to assure his work ought not President Roosevelt to submit to the judgment of this congress the acts so often bold, threatening, provoking, by means of which the United States apply the Monroe Doctrine?"

THE COSSACK AS A CANNIBAL.—"His thirst for blood is insatiable; it is a practical, working thirst, and not a mere figure of speech," writes Carl Joubert in *The Nineteenth Century and After* (London). "It is the craving of a carnivorous beast. The smell of blood affects him as it does the tiger, and his instinct guides him to the 'kill.' He is not particular as to the fountain from which he drinks. An ox or a pig will serve him; but sometimes he flies at higher game. In Omsk a Cossack was arrested by the police for murdering a Persian pedlar. The Persian was what is known as a 'box wallah' in Anglo-India. He used to go round the town with a bundle of printed cottons for sale. The Cossack coveted the Persian's goods and his money, so he waylaid and murdered him. He confessed, when arrested, that he had cut the Persian's throat and drunk of his blood. I was present when he made the confession, and I came across a very similar case in Malo-Cherkass. It is a common report that in the war with Turkey the Cossacks practically lived on the blood of the Turks whom they had captured."

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AMERICA'S SPEEDWAY OF FINANCE

"TRIAL TRACK" OF TRANSPORTATION—THE PATHWAY ON WHICH EVERY ADVANCE IN TRANSPORTATION, OF PERSON AND SOUND HAS TRAVELLED TO SUCCESS

THE deep and wide-spread interest excited by the completion of the New York and Philadelphia Electric Railway, connecting those cities, has naturally led to curiosity concerning the methods and conditions under which this monumental success was conceived, built, and put to a test strenuous enough to demonstrate for all time its value.

Of the nine cities of the world with populations in excess of 1,000,000 each, the New York and Philadelphia Electric Railway system connects the two nearest, as shown by the following: London to Paris, 290 miles; Berlin to Vienna, 431; London to Berlin, 722; Paris to Berlin, 731; New York to Chicago, 837; Paris to Vienna, 852; Berlin to St. Petersburg, 1,084; New York to Philadelphia, 88.

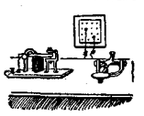
On completion of the electric railway tunnel, now building under the North River, the crowning triumph of the "trial track of transportation" will have been achieved.

This title has been bestowed on the stretch of eighty-eight miles between Philadelphia and New York that spans the State of New Jersey. For on this identical path has been the proving-ground of every method for annihilation of space and distance from the day of road-coaching until to-day. From experimental dreams to successful actuality, it has been the speedway of travel for person and sound.

John Butler, away back in 1756, chose this "trial track of transportation" for the first practical demonstration in this country of the relay stage-coach as a common carrier. He brought Philadelphia and New York within three days of each other—and earned a fortune.

Along this same route, Colonel Robert L. Stevens, in 1832, constructed his Camden & Amboy Railroad, the first real railway in America, and taught the Western hemisphere a new lesson in commercial development.

Morse, in 1854, experimented with a wire strung between Baltimore and Washington, with gross receipts of $300 for the first year; but communication by electric telegraph did not become a paying commercial proposition until New York was connected with Philadelphia in 1857.



The long-distance telephone had to prove its usefulness over these identical eighty-eight miles before the business world or the investing public would give it serious consideration. These two cities were able to "hello" in 1885, two years before any other large cities were 'phoning to each other, and seven years before New York could talk with Chicago.

Such conditions have evolved the New York and Philadelphia Electric Railway a matter of course, and opened a new chapter in the commercial history of this extraordinary "strip."

There has been a reason for all this. Progress, like the electric current, follows the lines of least resistance—merely another way of saying that the largest capability connects with the best opportunity by a law of natural election.

From the viewpoint of the transportation expert, the "strategic" position of the New York and Philadelphia Railway is unique and unequalled anywhere else in the world.

Statistics of the "trial track" are well-nigh staggering. At one terminus a population of 3,437,200; at the other, 1,293,697; between them Jersey City, with 200,000 inhabitants; Newark, 246,000; Elizabeth, 52,200; Plainfield, 20,000; Perth Amboy, 17,700; Rahway, 8,000; New Brunswick, 20,000; Trenton, 75,000; Burlington, 11,000; Camden, 76,000—4,730,987 in the termini, and 889,300 in the interlying cities, taking no account whatever of the thousands in smaller towns and villages.

Here, then, on a direct line of eighty-eight miles, or immediately tributary to it, are to be found, approximately, 6,000,000 persons, or one-twelfth of the population of the entire United States. For every mile an average of 60,000 persons.

Ten years ago the total population along these eighty-eight miles was less than 4,000,000, or an average of about 45,000 per mile. At the same rate of increase the census of 1910 should show 9,000,000 population, 103,000 to the mile.

The New York and Philadelphia Electric Railway, however, is not built on "futures." Contrary to the early experience with steam railroad construction, this project has no "region to develop," nothing to wait for. The business is "made." Six millions of people occupying fifteen cities in an area less than one hundred miles in length and a dozen in width—six millions of the most progressive citizens of the United States in a region teeming with industries and fed by richest garden-lands in the world—require quicker, cheaper, and better means of intercommunication than in the past.

Present conditions differ from those that brought out the stage-coach, the canal, and the steam-railroad only in the degree of their greater demand on genius. The figures amount higher, but the problem is essentially the same as that which has confronted the captains of transportation at each successive period.

The traffic of the "trial track" has burst its bounds again. That is all. Again the eyes of the business-world, as well as investing public, are directed toward the latest and important mode of transportation along the "Trial Track." Two of the best equipped steam railways in the world, operating great trains hourly, are unable to meet the record-breaking demands of these eighty-eight miles.

The two steam railroads are carrying 1,500,000 round-trip passengers annually between the two cities at $4.00 each. The New York and Philadelphia Electric Railway is equipped for 1,000,000 round-trips the first year at $2.25 each. A portion of this business doubtless will be deflected from the $6,000,000 traffic of the steam roads. Much of it will be entirely new business created by the reduced fare and the attractive frequency of the light-running electric trains. Ninety such trains daily will be required to meet this very conservative estimate of 1,000,000 round-trips a year.

Through passenger traffic, however, is merely one phase of this proposition. Without carrying a single passenger from one terminus to the other, this line already is on a paying basis as a result of strictly local business.

The possibilities of local traffic are unlimited. It has been demonstrated by scores of small roads that electric transit for short distances is a serious competitor to steam railroads. Many of the latter have been compelled to withdraw portions of schedules, owing to the inroads of the electric competition, due to the convenience of time and economy.

Freight possibilities of the future have not been included in the traffic estimate. In the transportation of express and mail matter, the New York and Philadelphia Electric Railway will begin at once to compete with the steam roads. Low rates, with rapid and frequent service, insure an express business of incalculable magnitude.

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The financial part of this undertaking affords another striking study. It is a wonderful tribute to the sagacity of its sponsors, the banking-house of A. N. Chandler & Co., of Philadelphia and New York. To-day the financial world concedes the triumph of judgment on the part of this conservative house.

This firm was the first in the early days of electric railways to discern the great possibilities of inter-urban electric railway transit, and while other financial magnates deliberated they grasped the opportunity offered by this enterprise.

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE LITERARY DIGEST is in receipt of the following books:

"A Book of Drawings."—A. B. Frost. (P. F. Collier & Son.)

"Songs: 'Night,' 'Tu Verras,' 'Slumber Song,' 'Le Meilleur Moment des Amours,' 'It Came Upon the Midnight Clear.'" (Clayton F. Summy Company.)

"Fifty Songs by Franz Schubert."—Ed. Henry T. Finck. (Oliver Ditson Company, $2.50.)

"Modern Theory of Physical Phenomena." — Augusto Righi. (Macmillan Company, $1.50.)

"How to Know the Starry Heavens." — Edward Irving. (F. A. Stokes Company.)

"Education Broth." — Frederic Allison Tupper. (C. W. Bardeen, $1.50.)

"Anatomy of the Brain."—J. F. Burkholder, M.D. (G. P. Engelhard & Co., $2.)

"Memoirs of the American War." — Major-Gen. William Heath. (A. Wessels Company, $2.50 net.)

"Illinois School Report."—Alfred Bayliss. (Phillips Brothers, Springfield, Ill.)

"Government and the Citizen." — Roscoe Lewis Ashley. (Macmillan Company, $0.70.)

"The Hardy Country."—Charles G. Harper. (Macmillan Company, $2.)

"The Holy Roman Empire."—James Bryce. (Macmillan Company, $1.50 net.)

"Modern Methods of Charity."—Charles Richmond Henderson. (Macmillan Company, $3.50 net.)

"Ideal and Real, The Student's Calendar."—L. G. S. Farr. (Published by author.)

"Granio-Muscular Origins of Brain and Mind."—Philip H. Erbés. (Promethean Pub. Company.)

"An Outline of a Bible-school Curriculum." — George William Pease. (University of Chicago Press, $1.50.)

Current Events.

Foreign.

RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

December 19.— The north fort of East Kirkwan Hill, say despatches from Port Arthur, was destroyed by the Japanese on the 18th. Some war-ships of the Russian Baltic fleet are sighted off Cape Town, heading eastward. A Japanese fleet is reported to have sailed southward to meet the Baltic fleet. Admiral Togo reports in detail the furious and successful attacks upon the *Sevastopol* in the outer harbor of Port Arthur.

December 20.—A call to 200,000 Russian reserves is issued. Hongkong and Shanghai despatches confirm the report that a Japanese fleet had sailed southward to meet the Baltic fleet. Two British steamships are captured near Port Arthur; Russian officers are said to have been on board. Members of the North Sea Commission, with the exception of Admiral Davis, the American member, are greeted by President Loubet at Paris.

December 21.—Reports from Chefu declare that the Japanese are planning another assault on Port Arthur, for which General Nogi has asked for 60,000 more Japanese soldiers. General Nogi reports the capture of five large and eight small guns and some ammunition in the north fort of East Kirkwan Hill. Admiral Davis arrives at Paris.

December 22.—A Japanese squadron, commanded by Admiral Kamimura, is reported off Singapore. Chinese reports say that the Russians have recaptured 203-Metre-Hill. Baron von Spaun, of the Austria-Hungarian navy, is chosen as the fifth member of the North Sea Commission.

December 23.—The usual skirmishes are reported south of the Shakhe River. Secretary Hay, in a note to the Powers, says that the attitude of Russia necessitated a postponement of the proposed second Hague peace conference.

December 24.—Admiral Togo announces the with-

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drawal of the majority of his war-ships at Port Arthur. General Kuropatkin reports the capture of several of Kuroki's defenses at Bentsiapudza.

December 25.—General Nogi's forces at Port Arthur, it is reported, have captured all the advance positions fronting the Japanese right.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

December 19.—Further rioting occurs in Moscow, and reports from many parts of Russia show that discontent is increasing.

King Alfonso sanctions the signing of a Spanish-American arbitration treaty.

December 22.—The Czar refuses the plea of a zemstvo for a national assembly to prepare a program of reforms.

Japan favors an arbitration treaty with the United States.

December 23.—A lieutenant and thirty-seven of a detachment of Philippine scouts are ambushed and killed in Samar. General Corbin reports that the conditions there are critical.

December 24.—Advices from Paris say that disorder in Morocco is leading French officials to contemplate the occupation of the more important ports.

December 25.—The Czar approves M. Witte's plan of state loans to landowners, especially peasants and commoners.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

December 19.—*Senate:* The session lasts but three minutes; no business is transacted.

House: A bill reincorporating the Red Cross is passed; a resolution providing for holding the inaugural ball in the Capitol is defeated, and a resolution to restore to the Naval Academy midshipmen dismissed for hazing is voted down.

December 20.—The case against Senator Smoot is completed; the defense will be opened on January 10.

December 21.—Both Houses adjourn for the holiday recess until January 4.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

December 19.—The United States Supreme Court decides that all railroad cars and locomotives must be equipped with uniform automatic safety couplers.

It is announced that Commissioner of Corporations Garfield will conduct a public investigation of the Beef trust in Chicago.

December 20.—Five textile unions at Fall River vote in favor of the proposition to submit the strike to arbitration.

Continuing his revelations as to "Frenzied Finance" in *Everybody's Magazine*, Mr. Lawson tells of the dealings of H. H. Rogers and J. Edward Addicks in Bay State Gas, of the work done to have the receiver removed, and of an extraordinary scene in a Wilmington court-room, when dress-suit cases containing $225,000 in cash changed hands before the judge's eyes.

December 21.—James R. Garfield, Commissioner of Corporations recommends, in his report a federal license or franchise for corporations engaged in interstate commerce.

The President appoints James E. B. Stuart, son of the Confederate general, to be United States marshal of the eastern district of Virginia.

December 23.—Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota, announces his candidacy for the United States Senate.

President Hughett, of Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, attacks President Roosevelt's railroad policy.

H. H. Rogers makes three attempts to induce the New York district-attorney to have Thomas W. Lawson indicted for circulating false reports, but the attorney refuses to act in the matter.

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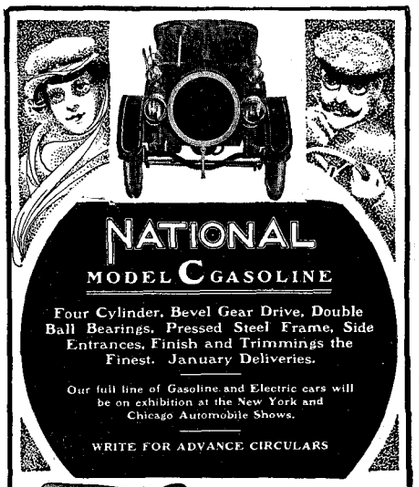
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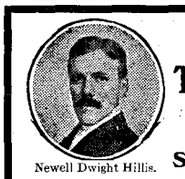

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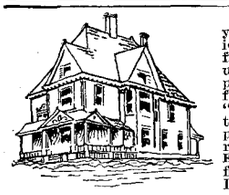

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CHESS.

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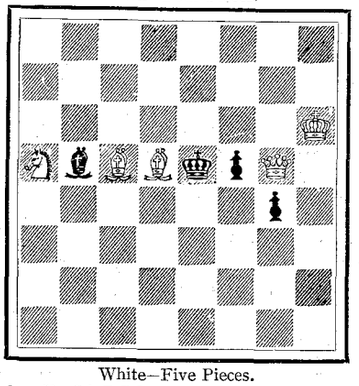
Problem 1,016.

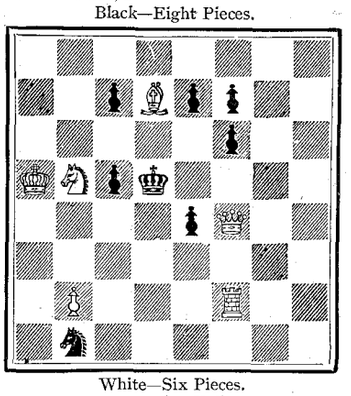
By J. COLPA.
From *Revue d'Echecs* Tourney.
Black—Four Pieces.



White—Five Pieces.
8; 8; 7 K; S b B B k p Q 1; 6 p 1; 8; 8; 8.
White mates in two moves.

Problem 1,017.

By S. TRCALA.
Second Prize, *Das Neue Illustrirte Blatt.*
Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.
8; 2 p B p p 2; 5 p 2; K S p k 4; 4 p Q 2; 8; 1 P 3 R 2; 1 S 6.
White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 1,010. Key-move: K—R 6.

No. 1,011.

1. R—K Kt 8 / K—Kt 5	2. Kt—B 5 ch / K x Kt	3. P—Kt 4, mate
1. ..... / B—Kt 3	2. Q—Kt 3 ch / K x P	3. Q—B 4, mate
1. ..... / Q—R sq	2. Kt x P ch / K—B 4	3. Kt—Q 4, mate
1. ..... / B x P	2. Kt—K 8 ! ch / K—B 4	3. Kt—Q 6, mate

Solved by the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W. Barry, Boston; A. C. White, New York City; O. Würzburg, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Dr. J. H. S.,

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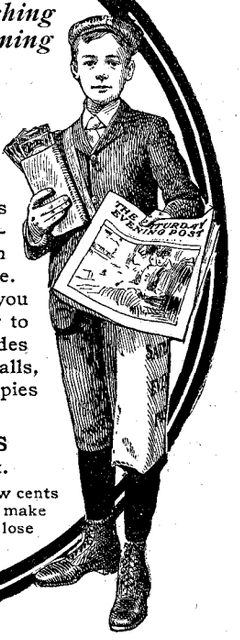

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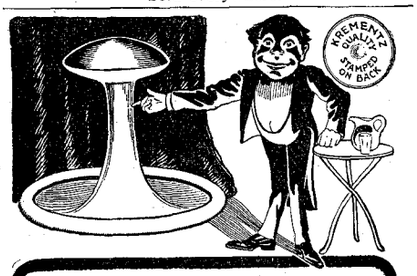

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Concerning Problem 1,010.

When this problem was submitted to us, we were prompted to criticize it on the ground that there were no "tries." It seemed to us that 1 ..... / R—R 2, "pinning" the Q, at once suggested the Key.

We were mistaken in our opinion, for no less than *nine* tries have been received: B—Q 4, B—R 7, R—K B 4, R—Kt 5, B—B 2, B—K 3, all answered by

1 ..... / R—R 2 2 No mate. 1 B—Q 7 / R—R B sq 2 No mate.

1 B—Kt 6 / R—B 4 2 No mate. 1 R—Q 4 ch / K—B 4 2 R—Q 6 ch / Kt—Q 5

In addition to those reported S. C. Simpson, San Francisco, got 999, 1,000; L. H. B., 1,003, 1,007, 1,008; W. E. W., W. E. Hayward, Indianapolis, 1,007; O. C. Brett, Humboldt, Kan., P. S., R. G. Eyrich, New Orleans, F. W. Howay, New Westminster, B. C., 1,007, 1,008; Miss J. H., B. A., 1,007, 1,008, 1,009; W. T. Kelly, Monticello, Ga., J. E. Ballou, Roxbury, Mass., 1,008; M. T., 1,008, 1,009.

A Surprise Mate.

Some time ago, under "Chess-club Chatter," we published a game showing the way an expert outwitted an amateur. In the following little game, an expert was the victim.

WARREN. *White.*	ELSON. *Black.*	WARREN. *White.*	ELSON. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	7 Kt—K 2	Q—Q 2 (a)
2 B—B 4	K Kt—B 3	8 P—B 3 (b)	B x Kt
3 Q Kt—B 3	B—B 4	9 P x B	Q—R 6
4 Kt—B 3	P—Q 3	10 Kt—Kt 3	P—K R 4
5 Castles	B—K Kt 5	11 B—KKt5(c)	Mate in eight! (d)
6 P—Q 3	Q Kt—B 3		

Comments by Reichhelm.

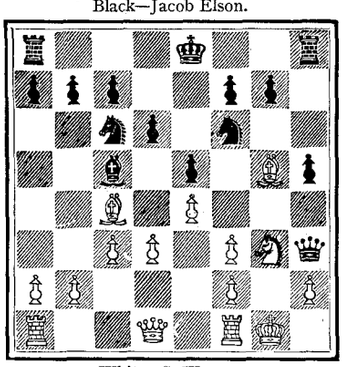
(a) All these moves are as decorous as an ancient owl, and no one would think that a brilliant would be developed.

(b) First fly in the ointment. B—K 3 is better.

(c) Even now B—K 3 is best.

(d) "Mate in eight! What are you giving us?" asked White. "Only a forced mate," said the "little Jacob" sweetly.

Black—Jacob Elson.



White—S. Warren.

Black to play and mate in eight moves.

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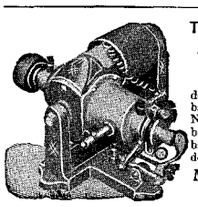

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THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

In this column, to decide questions concerning the correct use of words, the Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

"M. T. C.," Lewes, Eng.—"(1) How many pronunciations are recognized by lexicographers for the words 'acoustics,' 'feline,' 'panacea,' 'tonsillitis,' 'trousseau,' and 'gerrymander'? (2) What is the exact meaning of this last word? (3) Can you recommend for study any work that discusses the various pronunciations?"

(1) Three—a-coos'tics; a-cows'tics; a-cow'-stics; the first being preferred. "Feline" is usually pronounced fee'line; Foster, however, gives fee'lin. "Panacea" is generally pronounced pan"a-see'a (first "a" as in "fan," other "a's" as in "sofa"). It may also be pronounced pan"a-kay'a. "Tonsillitis," ton"-sil-lie'tis or ton"sil-lee'tis; "trousseau," troo"-sō'. "Gerrymander" is pronounced ger'ri-man'der (the "g" having the sound of "g" in "good"). (2) As a verb "gerrymander" means to alter the political map, as of a State, so that the voting-districts are unfairly or abnormally arranged, for the purpose of advancing the interests of a particular party or candidate. It has the additional meaning of to garble and misconstrue, as the premises in an argument, so as to arrive at a forced conclusion. It is also used, tho rarely, in the sense of to divide *into crooked or tortuous parcels, as a district* or region. As a noun it means the unnatural and arbitrary redistricting of a State or country involving such changes in the political map as are unfair to a party or a candidate. (3) Study the "Disputed Pronunciations" section of any copy of the Standard Dictionary, where you will find an extended list in concise form, together with the preferences of various authorities.

"S. H. V.," Jamaica, N. Y.—"Kindly inform me whether in the following sentence the word 'town' should be written with a capital or a small 't,' and the reason of your decision: 'I have made many inquiries from people in this town.'"

The word "town," being in this case a common noun, should be written with a small "t."

"E. E. M.," Chicago, Ill.—"(1) When an author's name follows a quotation, should quotation-marks be used? (2) How is 'Igorrote' pronounced?"

(1) According to custom they are generally omitted, being considered unnecessary. (2) Ig"gor-ro'tay, the "i" in the first syllable pronounced as "i" in "it," the "o" in the third syllable as "o" in "no."

"F. L. O.," Occidental, Cal.—"In *The International Journal of Ethics*, April, 1902, page 281, I find the following sentence: 'An ideal to deserve the name must sooner or later, and sooner rather than later, influence conduct.' Is not 'sooner or later' incorrect? And is not 'sooner rather than later' not only an incorrect use, but also redundant with 'rather than'?"

"Sooner or later" is idiomatic and in good usage, *meaning at some unknown or unspecified* but certain time. In view of this the meaning of the author is clear—"An ideal to deserve the name must at some time, and at an early date rather than a late one, influence conduct."

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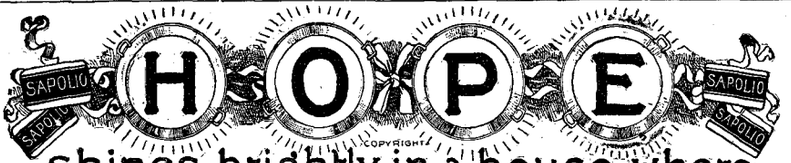

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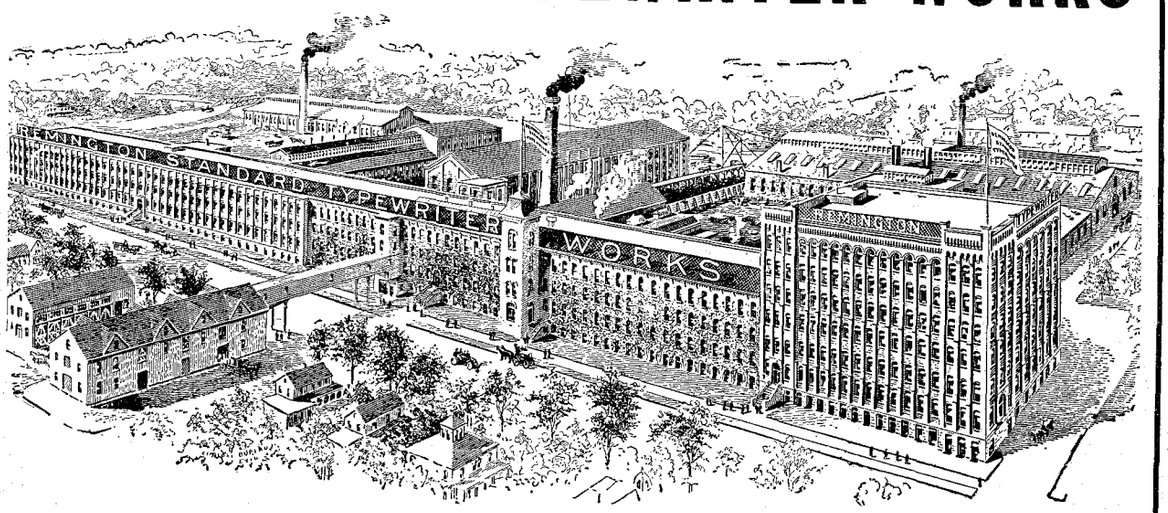

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Valetta
Las Palmas, Canary Is.

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Djibouti
Harrar

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Pekin
Kiao Chau

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Blagowestschinsk
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Wellington
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Napier
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Oamaru
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CONTEMPLATE FOR THIRTY SECONDS
THE WORK OF THIRTY YEARS

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